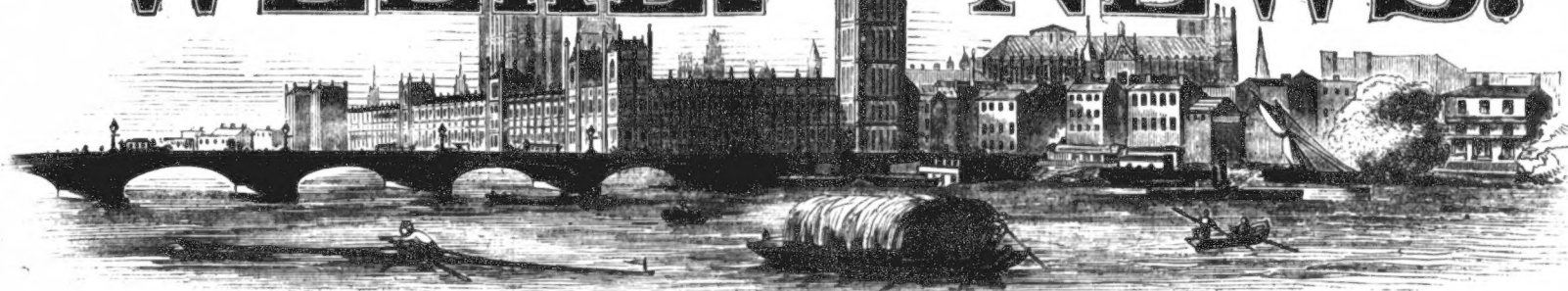


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THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.



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LONDON, SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1862.

ONE PENNY.

THE CETHIN COLLIERY EXPLOSION.

CETHIN, or Gethin pit, the property of Mr. Crawshaw, the extensive ironmaster of Cyfartha, is the largest in the district, employing upwards of 200 men.

At noon, on Wednesday week, the overlooker at the pit's mouth had notice that something unusual had occurred in the pit, which was soon followed by information that an explosion of gas had taken place. Means were at once adopted to render assistance, and to ascertain the extent of the calamity, which, unfortunately, has proved to be the most direful that ever happened in that valley.

Cethin colliery is situated about two miles from Merthyr Tydvil, and is an extensive and well-managed balance pit, extending in its furthest direction to about a mile and a half below ground. The shaft is 125 yards in depth, and the workings are so subdivided and the arrangements are so excellent that in the event of an explosion it would be confined to the place where it originated. Thus, in the present case, the accident was solely confined to the headings forming No. four-foot vein, or seam—the yard seam and other portions of the pit escaping altogether. But even with these arrangements the pit has a bad name. A few years ago the headings were flooded with gas, though fortunately no one was below with a naked light; so the gas ascended the shaft in a great volume, penetrated actually to the lodge at the mouth, and exploded at the fire, seriously injuring two men in the lodge and causing great damage. The present dreadful event, which has thrown the whole neighbourhood into mourning, occurred between one and two o'clock on Wednesday afternoon, and, as many of the poor fellows had their jackets on and their bread-tins under their arms, the supposition is that the men had struck for dinner. It is very probable that at this juncture some incautious man either opened the lamp or struck a match in order to light a pipe, and at once caused the fearful calamity.

Mr. William Jones, the able manager of the Cyfartha Works; Mr. Kirkham, the colliery manager; and Mr. Moody, with Mr. Lawreck, colliery manager of Plymouth Works, descended the pit

immediately after the accident, and worked nobly in order to rescue those who yet might be alive. But the task was one of great danger. The insidious choke-damp, or carbonic acid gas, which is evolved by an explosion, combined with a most offensive stench from the smell of singed bodies and burnt horses, rendered the exploration most difficult, so much so that two volunteers were dragged from the bottom of the pit insensible, and nearly all suffered extremely. At length, by forcing down large quantities of water, which fell at the bottom, and caused a great draught, the explorers were enabled to penetrate with safety. When they reached the four-foot seam the spectacle was harrowing. In every direction bodies were met with, in every conceivable form of death produced by violence. Some, it is true, looked as tranquil as if they slept; but the mass were bruised and battered, and the works were destroyed to a ruinous degree. One by one the bodies were found and placed near the bottom of the shaft, and when the number of forty-seven had been collected, and the greater part recognised, preparations were made for taking them up the shaft. At seven o'clock, on a dark, dull night, the rain falling, and the hills narrowing together in appearance and adding to the solemn gloom, the first batch of bodies was brought to bank. Thousands were assembled around, and on these, among whom, here and there, were the sorrowing bereaved, the flame of torches glared, making a fearful and most gloomy picture. Batch by batch, tram-full after tram-full, they were brought up and then conveyed by the Cyfartha Railway to Merthyr. In every corner of Merthyr the sorrows of crushed homes were revealed that night, every group in the street had some new horror to relate, and general mourning and earnest sympathy abounded.

The coroner's inquest was commenced at ten o'clock on Friday, at the Bush Inn, Merthyr, before G. Overton, Esq., coroner for the district. It being desirable that the funerals should take place as early as possible, it was proposed that the jury should at once proceed to view all the bodies, and that afterwards the inquiry should be adjourned to a future day, for the production of evidence. The duty of viewing was not only a very painful one, but occupied a number of hours. When it was concluded the inquiry was adjourned till the 4th of March.



THE FEARFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION NEAR MERTHYR TYDVIL.

NOTES OF THE WEEK.

LITTLE of importance has been transacted in the House of Lords. On Monday, Lord St. Leonards brought in two Bills, one for improving the law of real property, and the other giving purchasers of property a legal title after twenty years' continuous possession. Their lordships then adjourned.

In the House of Commons, however, the benches were crowded at a few minutes after four o'clock by an excited assemblage of members, who had been drawn together at that early hour in anticipation of "a scene," arising out of language used in debate by Sir Robert Peel on Friday night, which had been considered personally offensive by The O'Donoghue, and had prompted that honourable member to commit a breach of privilege, by despatching "a friend" to the right honourable baronet, to demand an explanation and an apology.

Lord Palmerston's rising to his feet had the effect of hushing the uproar that prevailed, and breathless silence at once succeeded. The noble lord observed that, in the course of debate on Friday evening, the Chief Secretary for Ireland used expressions which had been deemed offensive by The O'Donoghue, although he took no notice of them at the time; and, therefore, nobody supposed that any unpleasant "consequences" would ensue. After the house had adjourned, however, it was intimated to him that this was not unlikely to be the result. He accordingly wrote to Sir Robert Peel on the subject, informing him that, in sending a challenge, The O'Donoghue would be guilty of a breach of privilege, to which the right honourable baronet would make himself a party if he accepted it; that therefore it was his duty to decline the "invitation;" and that he (Lord Palmerston) should feel it his duty to mention the matter to the house on Monday evening. This letter was delivered to Sir Robert Peel early on Saturday morning; and in the course of the day communications took place which led to the right honourable baronet being requested to name "a friend;" and at his (Lord Palmerston's) request the right honourable baronet referred to him. The gentleman who had been commissioned by The O'Donoghue called upon him that morning, and to him he communicated the bearing of the contemplated proceeding upon the privileges of the house, and stated that he should bring the matter under the notice of the house at half-past four o'clock, and leave the house to deal with it as it might think proper.

The Speaker then called upon The O'Donoghue to express his regret for having committed a breach of privilege, and to give an assurance that the matter should proceed no further.

Major Gavin, who had acted as the "friend" of The O'Donoghue, explained that the objectionable language used by Sir R. Peel was, describing the late meeting in the Rotunda, Dublin, presided over by The O'Donoghue, as consisting of "manikin traitors," who had attempted to initiate the cabbage-garden heroes of 1848, and that its appeals were not responded to by a single respectable person. Having been consulted by The O'Donoghue on the subject, he had come to the conclusion that the words were such as no gentleman should rest under, and, so thinking, he had waited upon the right hon. baronet to request an explanation, but, instead of retracting the expressions, he declared that he adhered to them in their entirety. He then requested the right hon. baronet to refer him to a friend, and late on Sunday evening he received a letter from him saying that he referred him to the noble lord the Premier! Having also detailed what passed at the interview with Lord Palmerston, Major Gavin observed that the whole affair was very painful to him. He had done what he considered his duty to his friend, whose honour he had to vindicate, and he had gone about it in the only way he understood.

The Speaker reminded the house that the proper time to take exception to words spoken in debate was the moment when the words were uttered. In the present instance that course had not been adopted: the opportunity for disavowing the objectionable expressions had therefore gone by, and it was his duty again to call upon The O'Donoghue to express his regret, and to give an assurance that the matter should not proceed further. The O'Donoghue would deeply regret to do anything in violation of the privileges of the house, or to wound the susceptibilities of any hon. member. He thought the language used by the "Chief Secretary to the Lord Lieutenant" as offensive to himself, and that the right hon. baronet had come down with his mind made up to disparage his social position. He felt that the eyes of the house were upon him at the time, and that he could not submit to such an affront without forfeiting his claim to associate with honourable men. He was aware that the ancient mode of arbitration had fallen into disuse; and with it he thought those unseemly manners which had first called it into existence had disappeared. Having failed to obtain an explanation or an apology, if he arrived at the conclusion that the right hon. baronet was not distinguished by the qualities for which his countrymen were famous the fault was not his, The O'Donoghue's. He began to be afraid, indeed, that the right hon. baronet was not quite so hollow as he appeared, and that there was much of craftiness and cunning in his disposition—(cries of "Order.")

The Speaker intimated that the question now lay, not between The O'Donoghue and Sir R. Peel, but between the hon. member and the house itself. He trusted, therefore, the hon. member would not conclude without some reference to the position in which he had placed himself in regard to the house.

The O'Donoghue again rose and said he thought he had already apologised to the house for committing a breach of its privileges.

The subject was then dropped.

The house having gone into committee, Lord C. Paget brought forward the navy estimates for the next financial year. He stated that the expenditure for 1862-63 was estimated at £11,793,306, whilst that for the year just ending amounted to £12,640,588, showing a decrease upon the coming year of £846,283. The total force afloat would amount to 19 line-of-battle ships, 2 iron-sided ships, 38 frigates and corvettes, and 90 sloops, being a total of 149 vessels of all sizes. In addition to this there were 2 coast-guard ships and 9 block ships, which would bring the grand total up to about 160 ships. Of this force it was intended to maintain at home 2 line-of-battle ships, 2 iron-sided frigates, 2 corvettes, and 4 sloops; in all 10 ships on the Channel station. It was also proposed to retain for service at sea, including the coast-guard afloat, of officers, men and boys, at home, 15,200; in the Mediterranean, 9,800; and in North America and Mexico, 12,200, inclusive of the 700 marines who had been disembarked at Vera Cruz, making the whole 37,200 men and boys. These might be considered as within call, and for all practical purposes in these days of steam available for home defence. On other and more distant stations we should have 17,200 men and boys, which would run up the whole force in men and boys to 54,200. But over and above the force afloat we had, without drawing on the reserves, 13,000 men and boys, marines, dockyard riggers, and able-bodied pensioners on shore. Then, coming to the reserves, there was the magnificent royal naval reserve, which now consisted of upwards of 10,000 men, and 8,000 coast-guard volunteers. We had thus, in addition to the force afloat, 40,800 men and boys rated for service, in the event of their being required by any emergency. Alluding to the progress made in the construction of iron-covered ships, he stated that in 1863 we should have twelve of this powerful class of vessels afloat, that in 1864 three more would be ready, and that with Captain Cole's iron-shielded ship there would then be a fleet of sixteen. With regard to the Warrior, and the reports circulated respecting her performance, he observed that the communications received from Captain Cochrane, her commander, to the Admiralty, were of the most satisfactory character. She had encountered such terrific weather on her voyage to Lisbon that she was obliged to lay-to, but she arrived at her destination without experiencing any serious accident. The noble lord concluded by moving a vote of 6,000 men for the fleet and coast-guard service, which, after some discussion, was agreed to.

Foreign News.

FRANCE.

PARIS, Feb. 24.—In the Senate this evening the discussion on the Address was continued. M. Troplong exhorted the senators to preserve a conciliatory and moderate tone in the debates. M. de Boissy regretted that France had assisted England in revenging herself upon the Chinese. He was of opinion that the money expended in the Crimea and in Italy would have been better applied towards a descent upon England. M. Billault regretted the remarks of M. de Boissy. Language of this description between two great nations, equally proud, and equally sensitive upon the point of honour, was a misfortune. He thought it useless to revive French animosity towards England when the policy of the Emperor tended, upon the contrary, to appease such feelings.

ITALY.

TRIN, Feb. 24.—In the Chamber of Deputies to-day, Signor Mordini inquired if the Ministry had received information of insults offered to the Italian Consul by his fellow-countrymen at Malta. Baron Ricasoli replied that he had just received a report of insults offered by some reactionary adherents of the Bourbon party. He had requested explanations upon the matter from the English Government, and had claimed protection for Italian subjects. The ancient friendship of England for Italy was a guarantee that ample satisfaction would be given.

AUSTRIA.

"The news of the approaching revision of the Concordat of 1856," says a Vienna letter, "has been received in this city and throughout the whole of the Austrian empire with great satisfaction. It appears that the Court of Rome itself feels the dangers which would result for the Austrian Catholics from the rigorous execution of all the stipulations contained in that document, and has consented, at the request of the Emperor Francis Joseph, to send a special legate to open negotiations for an amicable revision."

POLAND.

THORN, Feb. 22.—All the councillors of the districts and towns of Russian Poland are to re-enter upon their public duties on the 15th instant. The Archbishop of Warsaw has visited the Jewish Hospital and the Asylum for Paupers.

THORN, Feb. 24.—Advices from Warsaw state that an ordinance of the Governor of Poland has been issued to-day, ordering that neither judicial investigation nor arrest for offences committed prior to the state of siege shall in future take place. General sympathy is felt for the new Archbishop of Warsaw. The churches in all the towns are well frequented.

AMERICA.

NEW YORK, Feb. 12, 1862.—We take the following from the New York Herald:—

After a severe contest, which lasted for three days, the troops of General Burnside's expedition have taken possession of Roanoke Island. The victory was completed on Sunday evening, and our troops were landed in large force. The stars and stripes were immediately hoisted over the Secessionist batteries. At noon on that day the Secessionist commander Lynch came down Carrabuck Sound with his little fleet to relieve General Wise, but our flotilla opened a brisk fire upon them, and before five o'clock in the afternoon three of the Secessionist gunboats were sunk, including the flag boat, two were captured, and the rest were dispersed in every direction. The utmost consternation is said to prevail in Norfolk and Portsmouth in consequence of this disaster to the Secessionist cause.

Our success at Fort Henry, on the Tennessee River, increases in importance as the detailed news of that brilliant affair reaches us from day to day. Not only have our troops got possession of the strongest point on the Tennessee River, but they have pushed further into the territory of the Secessionists, carrying victory with them, and working out, in the most satisfactory manner, the grand plan devised by the Commander-in-Chief to circumvent all the Secessionist strongholds in that direction. It appears, by a despatch received yesterday at St. Louis from Cairo, that Captain Phelps, of Commander Foote's squadron, in command of the gun-boat Conestoga, has returned from an expedition up the river, having penetrated as far as Florence, in Alabama, after capturing a new Secessionist gun-boat, and destroying all the other gun-boats between Fort Henry and the town of Florence. Thus it will be seen that we hold in absolute possession a vital strategic point, which imperils the most reliable positions of the Secessionists, and will enable our armies, by a few more successful combinations, to render both Columbus and Bowling Green comparatively worthless to them by cutting off their connexions with the South, and to save the necessity of reducing them at a great sacrifice of life.

Two persons who arrived at Louisville yesterday report that the Secessionists are evacuating Bowling Green, and are falling back on Nashville.

A detachment of our cavalry, 250 strong, had an engagement with a body of Secessionists on Sunday, seven miles east of Fort Henry, in which five of the Secessionists were killed, and thirty taken prisoners.

A portion of the railroad bridge on the Louisville, Clarksville, and Memphis Railroad was destroyed by our troops on the 8th, the Secessionists who were encamped there to protect it having previously evacuated the place.

The fate of Fort Donelson, on the Cumberland River, is likely to be speedily decided after the manner of Fort Henry. A special despatch, received at Cincinnati from Cairo yesterday, states that General Grant had surrounded the fort with seven batteries of artillery, and that he would commence shelling it to-day. Gen. Pillow is said to be in command there with 2,000 men. Other reports state that the garrison numbers 8,000 men, which is probably true, if, as stated, the infantry force which fled from Fort Henry has reached Fort Donelson. The trees for two miles around the fort has been cut down by the Secessionists in readiness for action, and it is thought that as there are two small forts and three camps outside the main fortifications the approaching battle will be far more desperate than that of Fort Henry.

The Secretary of War has issued a proposal for a contract to establish a regular daily line of swift steamers between Fortress Monroe, Hatteras, Port Royal, and Roanoke Island. He intimates that none but parties who have immediate means of putting vessels on this line need make proposals.

The reported Federal expedition from Port Royal towards Savannah was nothing but a reconnaissance, and the expedition has returned to Port Royal.

Three more Federal vessels of the Butler expedition have left Boston for Ship Island.

The Confederate steamer Merrimac, which has been fitting out at Norfolk, is reported to have proved a failure.

The Federal troops are reported to have taken possession of the bridge over the Tennessee River, sixteen miles above Fort Henry. The occupation of this point is said to cut off the main line of communication between Memphis and Bowling Green. Despatches from Fort Henry, of Feb. 9, report that the Federal troops are still encamped near Fort Henry, preparing for further movements.

The Tennessee River is considered open for Union fleets to its head waters.

MEXICO.

The following Mexican news is contained in a letter, dated Havannah, January 25:—

The Spanish steamer Alava came in on the 20th, having left Vera Cruz on the 15th. There were in all of the Allied Powers, 16,000 men, but there were already before that city and the capital 50,000 Mexicans, principally between Puebla and Chiquihuite.

There had been several insults and outrages committed on the Spanish residents of Puebla.

The Mexican Government has increased the taxes 25 per cent., and established an income-tax of 2 per cent.

The three Allied Powers addressed a note to Uruguai, asking permission to encamp at Tejeria and Medellin, which was granted.

On the 11th, the French Zouaves and other troops were quartered at Tejeria, about nine miles from the City. They marched along the railroad, accompanied by Prin and the English Admirals, and saw but few troops of the enemy, being the advance of General Zaragoza's force.

On the 14th Brigadier-General Milans del Bosch was sent with despatches to Juarez, accompanied by a naval officer from the French fleet and one from the English. They bore to Juarez the ultimatum of the Allied Powers. They went on horseback to Jalapa, where they were to take the diligence to Mexico. Their return was anxiously awaited.

THE GERMAN QUESTION.

BERLIN, Feb. 24.—The National Zeitung of this evening states that in the sitting of the Committee of the Chamber of Deputies, upon the German question, Count Bernstorff said:—

"The point of view from which the Government regards this question is exhibited in the well-known recent notes. The Government of the King recognises that the necessity of the union of German States under one single head in military and diplomatic affairs is bound up with Parliamentary representation. But, as the realisation of such a union depends upon negotiations, it is impossible to enter into further details respecting its extent."

THE SCHLESWIG-HOLSTEIN QUESTION.

COPENHAGEN, Feb. 24.—The Berlingske Tidende of to-day denies the statement of some German papers, that England, France, and Russia have inquired of this Government, in identical notes, what interpretation Denmark places upon the engagements undertaken by her in 1851 and 1852, with reference to the affairs of Schleswig-Holstein.

LATEST TELEGRAPHIC INTELLIGENCE.

THE INSURRECTION IN GREECE.—PARIS, Feb. 24.—The Paris papers of this evening publish a telegram from the Piræus, stating that the insurgents who occupy the citadel of Nauplia had demanded to be allowed to capitulate, and that the insurrection would be thus subdued. It is believed that the King will change the Ministry and then dissolve the Chamber.

THE INTERVENTION IN MEXICO.—The Paris journals publish under their "Latest Intelligence" advices from Vera Cruz to the 16th of January. A council of war was held at that city on the 15th of January, at which the admirals and allied commanders were present. It was decided that no military operations should be undertaken before February, so as to give time to the population to pronounce themselves. The sanitary condition of the troops continued to be excellent.

A letter from Berlin of the 19th ult. says:—The recognition of the kingdom of Italy is now a *jact accipi*. The King yesterday signed a document which implies it—namely, a note to the Prussian Minister at Turin, and which was immediately communicated to Count de Launay, the Minister of King Victor Emmanuel at the Prussian Court.

LATEST SUMMARY.

ARRIVAL OF PRINCE ALFRED.—SOUTHAMPTON.—His Royal Highness Prince Alfred arrived on Wednesday last, and embarked from the Southampton Docks in the royal yacht Fairy, for Osborne.

MURDER AND SUICIDE.—On Wednesday, Mary Mobbs, the wife of a surveyor residing near the entrance to Victoria-Park, Bethnal-green, murdered her child, aged ten months, by cutting its throat, and then committed suicide by cutting her own throat with a razor. The husband had left her early in the morning in bed; and as she did not come down to breakfast the charwoman went upstairs to call her, and discovered the dead bodies. No cause is at present assigned for the dreadful act.

INFANTICIDES.—Two more shocking cases of infanticide have taken place. The body of a newly-born child was discovered with its throat cut, in the canal which runs under the Great Northern goods station. The body of another child, a day or two old, was found in a garden in the King's-road, Camden-town; the child had evidently been suffocated.—Verdicts of "Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown" has been returned in both cases.

MELANCHOLY SUICIDE THROUGH A LOVER'S QUAREL.—A young female, named Clara Metcalf, aged twenty-one, residing in Winchester-place, Kentish-town, committed suicide by drowning herself in a pond in Kentish-town-fields. She had quarrelled with her lover, and portraits had been returned. The verdict was "Suicide by drowning, but how the deceased came into the water was unknown."

THE FATAL ENCOUNTER AT THE NEW CATTLE MARKET.—The unfortunate man whose eye was jabbed out by a stick, as recorded in our police columns, has died. He remained insensible from the time he was taken to the hospital until his death, which took place on Tuesday evening. He has left a widow and family to deplore his loss.

THE CARLISLE MURDER.—The engine-driver, who so brutally murdered the old woman on the railway, has had sentence of death passed on him.

ST. ANDREW'S, WELLS-STREET.—By the death of the Rev. James Murray, which took place on Saturday last, the incumbency of St. Andrew's, Wells-street, becomes vacant. The incumbency is worth about £230 a-year, and is in the gift of the Crown. It is believed that it will now be conferred on the Rev. Stafford Bushell, M.A., who has for the last two years been the senior curate. Memorials to the bishop and Lord Palmerston to this effect are being signed by the parish.

RECOGNITION OF GALLANT SERVICES.—The gallant service rendered to the shipwrecked crew of the Mecklenburgh barque Grossfürstin Catharina off Gibraltar by Lieutenant Brooke, and a boat's crew of her Majesty's ship Lapwag has received a handsome token of recognition from the Grand Duke of Mecklenburgh-Schwerin. He has presented Lieutenant Brooke with a gold medal, and given a sum of £20 to be divided amongst the boat's crew.

THE BARON DE VIDAL.—Some of the friends of the Baron de Vidal—who, it will be recollected, was convicted at the Central Criminal Court of feloniously wounding his son with intent to murder him, and sentenced to twelve months' imprisonment, with hard labour—have recently been exerting themselves to obtain his release, upon the grounds that the six months' imprisonment he has already undergone is sufficient punishment for the offence. For the purpose of strengthening an application which was about to be made to the Home Office, the son was applied to for his signature, but he positively refused to interfere. On the determination of the son being communicated to the baron, he requested his friends to desist moving in the matter; he will therefore remain in the House of Correction until the full term of his sentence has expired.

Accidents and Offences.

DISCOVERY OF THE BODY OF A CHILD AT THE LONDON-BRIDGE STATION.—In the early part of last month a brown paper parcel, with direction attached, was found by one of the porters in the first-class waiting-room of the London-bridge Station of the South-Eastern Railway, and it was removed to the cloak-room, where it remained up to the present week. From certain suspicions which were then entertained, the parcel was opened, and it was found to contain the body of a fine female infant in an advanced state of decomposition. A piece of tape was tied tightly round the neck, and several severe injuries were about the head and face, and in the opinion of the surgeon who saw the child, the cause of its death was most probably suffocation. He considered, however, that a post-mortem examination was necessary, which the coroner has ordered to be made, and the police have been communicated with, in order if possible to trace the guilty parties. On Saturday, Mr. W. Payne, coroner, held an inquest at the Vestry-hall, Fair-street, Horseferry-road, on the body. Mr. J. J. Beer, surgeon, said he saw the body on the 17th, and it was very much decomposed. A piece of tape was tied very tightly round the neck, at the back. This had produced a deep indentation. He should say that it had been tied on during life, or immediately after death. The lower jaw was broken on the right side, and the face considerably swollen. He did not think the mother of the child had received professional aid at its birth. The next day he examined it internally, and having cut the lungs into pieces, he found they floated, leading to the conclusion that the child had breathed. The stomach was quite empty, and the heart healthy. He did not open the head, because it was so far decomposed. In his judgment the cause of death was suffocation and strangulation, produced by the piece of tape tied round the neck. After some other evidence, the jury consulted, and concurred in the necessity of the inquiry being adjourned, and it was adjourned accordingly.

REVOLTING AND INHUMAN MURDER AND MUTILATION OF A CHILD.—On Monday morning, at an early hour, as Mr. J. Shepherd, residing in Grove-street, Holborn, was passing through Baldwin's-place, Hatton-garden, he discovered a paper parcel lying on a door-step, on opening which it was found to contain the body of a full-grown male child, which could not have been dead more than two hours. It was ascertained that death had been occasioned by bad means, the stomach having been ripped up with a knife, so that part of the entrails dropped out, and the head and upper part of the body had the appearance of having been subjected to considerable pressure, being a perfect mass of contusions. The body was conveyed to the dead-house of St. Andrew's, Holborn, and information of the revolting deed forwarded to the coroner for the district.

FATAL OCCURRENCE IN A POLICE CELL.—On Monday, the police authorities at Scotland-yard despatched an officer to Kensal-green Police-station, to investigate a serious and fatal occurrence which took place in one of the cells of that station, late on Saturday night, or early on Sunday morning. The police account of the matter is to the effect that on Saturday night, a lady, residing in Manley-street, Paddington, got into a Westbourne-grove omnibus in the City, and requested the conductor to put her down at the Lord of Hay Tavern, a short distance from her residence. She was, however, taken to the Royal Oak, some way beyond the Lord of Hay, and was there found to be insensible. She was at once removed from the omnibus and handed over to the custody of a policeman, who conveyed her to the Kensal-green station, and locked her up in a cell, under the impression that she was intoxicated. The following morning the hapless woman was found dead. The friends of the deceased are vehement in their assertions that she was not in the least under the influence of liquor, and account for her insensibility from a sudden attack of illness.

MELANCHOLY DEATH FROM STARVATION.—On Saturday afternoon an inquiry was instituted at the George and Vulture Tavern, St. George's-in-the-East, before Mr. John Humphreys, one of the Middlesex coroners, touching the deaths of Mrs. Anne Nash, aged seventy, and Anne Rogers, aged thirteen months, who both died during the past week from the effects of dreadful privations. In the case of Mrs. Nash, Dr. Garrett deposed that he was sent for to the deceased's lodging by the landlady and that he found her lying on the floor, and evidently dying from exhaustion produced by want of food. She was pitifully emaciated, being literally "a mere bag of bones." He did what was possible to preserve her life, and she died in a short time. The landlady of the deceased said that the poor old woman received 1s. 6d. per week from the Shadwell parish, and she also got 1s. per week for trousers-making for a slop tailor. That was all she had to live upon, and she paid 1s. a week rent. She was often without food. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from destitution." In the other case it was proved in evidence that the whole family had been reduced to extreme indigence by the father of the deceased, a fancy-basket maker of superior skill, having accidentally injured his eyes with a vitriolic dye used in his trade, and that on Saturday night week, there being no food in the house, his wife went out to sell some baskets to procure some. She had to leave the deceased, which was being still sickled, at home, and during her absence the unfortunate child, exhausted by previous suffering, died from congestion of the brain brought on by hunger. Dr. Tripe said he had never seen so severe a case of congestion. The room in which the miserable family lived had no furniture, not even a bed, in it. The jury returned a verdict of "Death from congestion, accelerated by privation of the necessities of life."

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY FUND.—At the last meeting at Newcastle of the committee appointed to promote the subscription for the relief of the widows and orphans and other relatives of the sufferers by the catastrophe in the Hartley pit, it was announced that £35,000 had been received, but that the actual sum that had been subscribed and would come in would be about £50,000—enough money to meet all the wants of the bereaved. The committee therefore came to the resolution to advise the several sub-committees throughout the country of the fact, and to state that any further sums that might be sent would be applied to the relief of sufferers by any future casualty.

SUNDERLAND.—The flooding of the Pemberton pit has been effectually stopped, and the men and boys, of whom 800 are said to be employed at this mine, resumed work last week.

EXPLOSION OF GAS.—An explosion of gas took place on Saturday forenoon, on the premises of Mr. Bingley, slate modeller, Kensington-place, Horseferry-road, Westminster. Mr. Bingley and his foreman, Mr. Dixon, were much injured, and the building in which the explosion occurred was considerably damaged. The accident arose from an escape of gas from one of the burners, which became ignited through a lucifer match having been struck, in order that sufficient light might be obtained to search for a leak.

SUFFOCATION BY A FEEDING BOTTLE.—On Saturday morning, Mr. Brent held an inquest at the Leighton Arms, Upper York-road, St. Pancras, on the body of Maude Rosa Twynham Brown, aged nine weeks, the daughter of a solicitor residing at 3, Leighton-villas, whose death was occasioned by suffocation in a very singular manner. It appeared that the child was under the attention of a nurse, who was in the habit of lying it in bed with a feeding bottle in its mouth; and early on Wednesday morning last she took the child up for the purpose of conveying it to its mother, when she was alarmed by finding it in a state of insensibility, and apparently dead. Medical assistance was promptly summoned, but too late to be of any avail. The examination after death showed every organ of the body to be in a perfectly healthy condition, and that death was caused by the teat attached to the bottle being so sucked

during sleep that the air passage became blocked and respiration prevented. The jury found a verdict of "Accidental suffocation."

DESPERATE ATTEMPT TO MURDER A FEMALE.—Considerable excitement has been created in the immediate vicinity of the Waterloo and Blackfriars-roads, in consequence of the following desperate attempt having been made by a man to murder a female. From all that could be learned, it seems that a young man, accompanied by a female named Mary Maynard, took temporary lodgings at the Waterloo Coffee-house, St. George's-circus, Southwark. An altercation took place between the two persons, and when they had reached the street more angry words ensued between them, and the young man deliberately plunged a knife into the lower part of the female's abdomen. Police-constable M 51 was called, and he conveyed the unfortunate woman to the station-house, completely saturated with blood. The divisional surgeon was at once sent for by Mr. Inspector Moore, and the medical gentleman having attended and examined the female, he found her so fearfully mangled that he advised her removal to St. Thomas's Hospital, which was accordingly done. Unfortunately, the would-be assassin managed to get clear off, but he is well known to the police.

SUICIDE OF A FRENCH BARBISTIER.—On Monday forenoon, Mr. Brent, deputy-coroner, and a respectable jury, assembled at the Lord Wellington, University-street, Tottenham-court-road, to inquire into the circumstances attending the death of Mr. Jean Augustus Lelat, aged fifty-six, a French barbistier, who committed suicide at his late residence, 172, Euston-road, by inflicting a most determined wound in his stomach. Policeman S 167 produced several memoranda, with some printed papers, one of which was a publication called the "Democrat," in French. Some remarks were written in French on a pamphlet. Mr. A. Southey, house-surgeon at the University College hospital, stated that the wound in the deceased's stomach was five and a half inches long, and that a portion of his (deceased's) bowels had been cut off. Deceased died the day following his admission. Another witness observed that a few days ago deceased stated to him that he was always being pursued by *espions* (French spies). He, witness asked him on what account. He replied that they wanted to implicate him in another Orsini plot to assassinate the Emperor. It was further shown that the deceased had formed an attachment to a young woman with money, which connexion was recently broken off, and the deceased appeared to be much affected by it. He mentioned on Monday last to a friend that that was one cause of some mental disarrangement, but not the only one; he was under espionage, and was being traced like Orsini for the getting up a plot. He said he was being hunted about to be arrested. His circumstances had also changed, and he was in want of money. On the following day, between twelve and one o'clock, he was in conversation with his landlady, to whom he owed nearly £5 rent, when he suddenly asked her to obtain the assistance of the police, as there were men outside waiting to arrest him, and then rushed to his room up-stairs. The landlady, thinking this was a *ruse* to avoid payment, sent for her brother, who, obtaining no answer to his calls and knocking, sent for the police, who forced the door of the room, when they found him lying on the bed in a pool of blood, and an open razor near him. One of the officers raised the shirt of deceased, and was horrified at seeing a tremendous gash across his stomach, with the bowels protruding. It further appeared that deceased had told his friend that on the previous Wednesday he had prepared for suicide, but the receipt of a letter at the time prevented his commission of the act. When the police found him, as he lay on the bed, he pointed to a French publication, the *Journal de Tous*, on the margin of two of the pages being written in French the following:—"Not for conspiracy or any political plot; I die to avoid becoming the victim of the infamous Cannarini or John Sennecone, Count of J—." Then followed the signatures of his friends, with their residences. Verdict, "Temporary insanity."

A CHILD KILLED BY SWALLOWING A PEA.

Ox Thursday last night Mr. H. Raffles Walthew, the deputy-coroner for East Middlesex, held an inquest at the Black Boy, Wapping, on the body of George Russell, a fine child, aged two years. It appeared from the evidence of the mother that her eldest little boy, on returning from school on the 13th ult., brought with him some peas that had been given him by another little boy. The deceased, who was on the floor, cried for them, and his brother, to pacify him, gave him some. He put them into his mouth, and was immediately seized with a fit of choking. The mother patted him on the back, which caused several to be thrown from his mouth, but the choking continuing, she took him to Dr. Dobell, of Graveland. The child got better, and apparently well; but at night he was seized as before, and died almost immediately. Mr. Lammiman, a surgeon, made a post-mortem examination, and found a pea lodged in the bronchus, which, by moisture, had swelled, and so caused death by suffocation. Verdict accordingly.

ATTEMPTED SUICIDE IN THE SERPENTINE.—On Monday afternoon a man named George Osborne, aged 36, a bricklayer, threw himself into the Serpentine from the north shore. An alarm was given, and Mr. Superintendent Williams jumped into a boat and rowed to the spot pointed out by the bystanders, who saw the man sink, and with the second throw of the drag he was brought to the surface, and with all appearance dead. He was taken to the receiving-house and attended to by Mr. Harrison, a surgeon, who happened to be passing, and Dr. Christian having been sent for, their united efforts were successful, and the man's life saved, and we understand he is likely to recover, although under water for more than five minutes. No cause has been assigned for the rash act.

VEGETABLE DYES.—We once knew a lady who used to dye her gloves in almost all shades of colour by using the juice of the stock-gilly-flower. The petals of the hollyhock have of late been recommended for dyeing ribbons and other female gear. The faded petals of the dark maroon varieties of this flower are collected; a large handful of them is put into a quart of water, with a piece of alum about the size of a filbert—let it simmer down for about half-an-hour; ribbons, silks, woollens, are then dipped in the liquid, and that fashionable and elegant tint called "mauve" is produced. Ribbons should be wrapped in a piece of white cotton or linen, so as to dye gradually and evenly. The shade of colour may be lessened by adding water if the tint should be considered too high. This is about as economical a plan for furnishing up an old faded silk dress or a ribbon as the, at one time, very prevalent use of the juice of beetroot instead of rouge amongst highland belles in restoring a maidenly blush upon their cheeks.

EXECUTION AT BEYROUT.—A letter from Beyrouit in the *Monitor* says:—"An unheard-of fact—for it is the first time that a similar fact has happened since the fall of Emir Beshir—occurred lately in the Mountain. Two men, one a Druse, and the other a Maronite, accused of murder, were judged, condemned to death, and executed. The capital punishment was pronounced against them unanimously, and the execution took place on the night of the 19th of January, at Sebney, a place situated at two hours' distance from Beyrouit, and which is the present residence of Daniel Pacha. This simple fact, unfortunately so necessary, has produced an immense sensation. A general feeling, if not of satisfaction, at least of deliverance, is manifested everywhere. People feel themselves freed from the scourge of impunity, which was the principal cause of the disorganisation and anarchy into which the country had fallen. For those populations which, above all things, require to be governed, and which for the last twenty years had been abandoned to themselves, the execution of these two criminals must not be looked on as an act of justice, but as an act of authority."

ADDITIONAL PARTICULARS OF THE DREADFUL COLLIERY EXPLOSION AT MERTHYR TYDVIL.

The incidents of the calamity are peculiarly distressing. One family lost five of its members. A boy, a son of the deceased, struggled to keep his mouth open, gasping for air. A man was brought to bank with his handkerchief so firmly fixed in his mouth, that great exertion was required to withdraw it. It is supposed that he had a moment's warning of the explosion, and instantly put his handkerchief to his mouth, in order to prevent the gas from being inhaled. The workings are extensive, that men in the same portion of the pit wherein the accident was, did not hear of it until some time after. Two boys, who happened to be near the mouth of the pit, rushed to the bottom, where they picked up from them the first tidings were pathetic of the catastrophe. One case was specially distressing. A poor collier and his boy worked together. The man was in delicate health, and earned but little, and, in addition, for the last day or two had such a dread of them, on account of the murky condition of the weather, that he stayed away from work. Wednesday came. His wife said, "We shall be starved if you don't go to work," and he went; the poor man and his boy went without breakfast, for there was no bread, only yeast-cake, and that was given to the boy. At eight o'clock both were brought home dead.

The explosion must have been most sudden, for five men were found as if at their dinner, and one of the number had actually a piece of bread in his mouth when brought to the upper earth. Some had evidently received warning of the coming storm of fire, for one was found with his little dog under his arm—both dead, and he was no doubt endeavouring to escape.

The recognition scene was most agonizing. The young wife kneeling in speechless anguish beside the corpse of him she so fondly loved; the daughter, on beholding all that was mortal of a beloved father, setting up a wail that would arouse the sympathy of a misanthrope.

At Treodryhiw was seen, as if in placid sleep, the body of a young man who was the sole support of his aged mother. Her agonized, and her mournful cry, uttered in the southern vernacular of the country, "My son! my son! would God that I had died for thee," were heartrending. This poor bereaved woman was called upon to play the part of chief mourner—but not for the first time; she had acted that part before, for she was as a widow.

Saturday, at Merthyr Tydvil, was one of impenetrable gloom. The shops throughout the town had alternate shutters on their windows, and a tone of mourning generally prevailed.

The works of Cyfarthfa were stopped at noon.

Ten of the deceased were buried in the cemetery, others in the various graveyards surrounding their several places of worship. Thousands of sorrowing friends accompanied the deceased to their final rest. On the vast concourse forming a procession a solemn dirge was chanted in the Welsh language. It was simple, but it assumed a solemnity from its very simplicity. The several lodges of the town were joined to the procession, including Odd Fellows, Brevinets, Teetotallers, and others, and a scene such as this has never been witnessed in this town on any former occasion.

LIST OF BODIES RECOVERED.

S. Griffiths, collier, aged 43, suffocated; T. Evans, collier, 39, suffocated; R. Williams, collier, 35, burnt; W. Williams, collier, 32, suffocated; J. Jones, collier, 26, suffocated; S. Morgan, collier, 27, suffocated; W. Evans, collier, 24, suffocated; W. Richards, collier, 48, suffocated; E. Benyon, collier, 37, suffocated; W. Lewis, 17, collier, suffocated; W. Lewis, 47, collier, and W. Lewis, collier, 18 (father and son), suffocated, the son having a leg blown off; L. Davies, collier, 43, burnt; J. Jones, collier, 31, suffocated; J. Jones, collier, 39, suffocated; W. Davies, collier, 21, suffocated; E. Davies, collier, 43, suffocated; R. Lewis, collier, 56, burnt; W. Jenkins, collier, 29, burnt; D. Jenkins, collier, 21, burnt; G. Rees, collier, 20, suffocated; D. Rees, collier, 33, suffocated; L. Rees, collier, 22, burnt; W. Edwards, collier, 36, burnt; T. Evans, collier, 14, burnt; D. Griffiths, collier, 48, suffocated; J. Griffiths, collier, his son, 17, suffocated; J. Edwards, collier, 52, suffocated; E. Edwards, collier, 44, suffocated; J. Turner, collier, 39, suffocated; M. Griffiths, collier, 25, suffocated; G. Powell, collier, 56, suffocated; B. Richards, collier, 30, suffocated; J. Gwynne, collier, 32, suffocated; T. Evans, collier, 29, burnt; T. Griffiths, collier, 17, burnt; S. Jones, overman, 39, burnt; E. Jones, hauler, 44, and T. Jones, hauler, 16 (16th son), burnt; T. Jones, hauler, 20, burnt; H. Davies, hauler, 29, burnt; G. Griffiths, hauler, 18, burnt; M. Evans, hauler, 13, burnt; J. Lewis, blocklayer, 62, burnt; W. Hughes, door boy, 11, burnt; T. Morris, door boy, 12, burnt; W. Humphrey, door boy, 12, burnt.

By a singular coincidence, about a fortnight ago, the High constable of Merthyr convened a public meeting for the purpose of expressing sympathy with the sufferers at Hartley, and contributing towards the fund. Two days after the notice concerning the meeting had been posted about the town, the Lord Mayor of London announced to the nation that an amount sufficient for the purpose of relieving the widows and orphans at Hartley had been subscribed. This announcement, however, had not the effect of putting off the meeting, which was held at the time stated, exactly a week before the calamitous explosion at Cethin. The object of the meeting was then changed, and the leading gentlemen present proposed and formed the nucleus of the Merthyr Tydvil Accidental Relief Fund. Several handsome sums of money were subscribed and promised, and now the society it is hoped will be well supported, so that it may go free and unfettered, with ample resources at hand, in the good cause which it so nobly and courageously commenced. The ironmasters and coal proprietors of Merthyr are a wealthy set of gentlemen, and have powerful influence in the whole district. It is incumbent upon them now to give this newly-formed society their support.

CAUTION TO RAILWAY GUARDS.—The guard of the goods train which was run into by the express, near Dudley, one night last week, was taken before the magistrates, and charged with neglect of duty. The railway rules provide that guards should pay signals on the line on the stoppage of any train, and that they should be placed 800 yards from the rear of the train. This the defendant neglected to do, and the magistrates, therefore, sent him to prison for a month.

ACCIDENT TO THE IRON-CLAD STEAMER DEFENCE.—On Saturday morning last a serious accident occurred to her Majesty's ship *Defence*, Captain Richard A. Powell, C.B., which ship was lying at Spithead. It appears that the Hunter gunboat left Portsmouth Harbour on the above morning, and steamed out to the *Defence*. There was a heavy swell running at the time, and it is asserted that as the Hunter went alongside, miscalculating her distance, she ran towards the bow of the ship, the bow-anchorage of the latter just touching her side. As the swell lifted the gunboat it caught the anchor, which broke away from the tumbler, and, after being dragged away by the gunboat, rebounded against the bow of the ship, into the side of which the fluke completely picked a hole. The iron at the bow, it is well-known, is only five-eighths of an inch thick. The *Defence* came into harbour on Saturday evening, and was lashed alongside the sheer jetty. The aperture made was just above the water-mark. The hole has been filled in with a piece of plank, secured with white lead. It is stated that one of the pieces of iron knocked out has been examined, and found to be greatly deficient as regards the welding.

OPENING OF THE GREAT EXHIBITION.

The Exhibition will be opened on Thursday, May 1, and closed in October. On the opening day only those persons who possess season tickets will be admitted. There are two classes of season tickets, one at £5 5s., admitting the owner on all occasions, late the Exhibition is open to the public and to the gardens of the Royal Horticultural Society, adjoining, and at Chiswick, during the continuance of the Exhibition; the other season tickets, at £3 3s., admitting to the Exhibition only. On the 2nd and 3rd of May the charge of admission will be £1; from the 5th to the 17th, 15s.; from the 19th to the 31st, 2s. 6d., except on one day in each week, when the charge will be 5s. After the 31st of May the price of admission will be 1s. four days in the week.

Some arrangements have already been made regarding the musical portion of the programme on the inaugural day. Rossini, Auber, and Meyerbeer will each contribute a march for the occasion; and Dr. Sterndale Bennett has been invited to set to music some appropriate words by the Poet Laureate. Mr. Costa will conduct the whole. A force of 1,800 performers will be engaged, 430 of whom will be instrumental—viz, 240 performers on stringed instruments, and 160 wind. Of the 1,400 choristers, about 500 will be members of the principal choral societies and choirs in the kingdom, a few will be professionals, and the remainder will be furnished by the Sacred Harmonic Society, &c. The Orchestra will be erected partly under the eastern dome, near the intersection of the nave and transept.

ALLEGED ASSAULT BY A CLERGYMAN.—ANOTHER YELVERTON CASE.

At the Barnsley Court House, a charge of assault was preferred before the sitting magistrates, against the Rev. C. Toothill, late curate of Monk Bretton, near Barnsley. The case in all its bearing bore a strong resemblance to the celebrated Yelverton one, the complainant being a young Irishwoman, who alleges that whilst the defendant's son was being instructed in farming, at a place where she was servant, he fell in love with and ultimately married her; but as she was a Roman Catholic, and the son was known to be a Protestant, the marriage was now repudiated by both son and father.

Mr. Hamer appeared for the complainant, and Mr. Tyas for the defendant.

The complainant, Rose Lennan, said she arrived in Liverpool from Dundalk, in Ireland, on the 11th of April last, in company with the defendant's son. In July she was in Barnsley, and not being supported by the son, she saw the defendant, who agreed to pay her 5s. a week until she could procure her £50 to pay her passage and outfit to Australia. The allowance, however, was stopped, but promised to be renewed if she would go and reside at Huddersfield. She went there, being at the time in an advanced state of pregnancy, but, the money promised not being sent, she was obliged to go into the workhouse. She then returned to Barnsley, and on the 12th of November went to the residence of the defendant, and on entering one of the rooms she saw young Mr. Toothill, with whom she came to England, but who left the room the moment she appeared. She was then ordered out, but refused to go. Mr. Toothill, sen., then returned from a walk, and on seeing his visitor, at once, on her refusing to leave, sent for a policeman. On the policeman's arrival witness said all she wanted was the fulfilment of the promise made by the defendant, and that she could go without the aid of the policeman. The defendant, according to the complainant, then pulled her by the arm, and, getting her to the door, took her by the back, and pushing her out, kicked her. That was the assault complained of.

For the defence, it was alleged that the defendant had used no more force than was necessary to eject the complainant, and that he never kicked her.

Mrs. Harley, the owner of the house where Mr. Toothill resided, and the policeman, denied that the defendant kicked the complainant.

The Bench dismissed the case, remarking that the complainant must seek a remedy for any other charge in another court.

A FEMALE BUTCHER.

A few Sunday evenings since, amongst the numerous visitors at the Fighting Cocks Inn, Petersfield, was a fine youth, about twenty years of age, dressed in the garb of a butcher, who inquired if he could sleep there for the night. On being informed that he could be accommodated, he sat down with a pipe and glass, and all went on well; others came in, and among these another character, who, although not dressed as a butcher, soon made known by his conversation that he was well acquainted with the knife and the steel. It soon became matter of inquiry between the two particular parties what part of the country each was bound for, and their different pursuits, and cups were filled and emptied to their good luck on the morrow. But there is generally something to damp the comfort of social parties, and this was the case here. To the utter astonishment of the company and the household the last-named arrival made an attack on the young butcher, by informing that individual of his suspicions that the latter was not what he appeared to be, but a female in disguise. He also added that it was the superintendent of police to whom she had been conversing, and that he must take her into custody. She stoutly denied the sex, and the company began to think that the officious blue had caught a tartar; but no, his information was too strong. The suspicion of Superintendent Fey was confirmed when the hat was removed from the pseudo-butcher's head, disclosing her beautiful hair in natural ringlets, which showed off a fine countenance of fair complexion, and a pair of bright blue eyes. She was removed to the station and taken care of. We have been informed that she is the daughter of a landlord near Farnham, but the cause of her singular freak has not transpired. The young woman has been restored to her friends.—*West Sussex Gazette.*

RATHER CONCEITED.—When the last Macdonald of Dunaverty was invited to an entertainment given by the Lord-Lieutenant of Ireland, he chanced to be among the last in coming in, and sat himself down at the foot of the table, near to the door. The Lord-Lieutenant spying him there called to him to come and sit at the head of the table. "What does the earl say?" asked Macdonald in Gaelic. It was explained to him that the Lord-Lieutenant wished him to move towards the head of the table. "Tell the earl," was the reply, "that wherever Macdonald sits, that is the head of the table."

TRADE.—Parents, if you love your children, and would do your duty by them, have them taught a trade as soon as they are old enough to learn it. Never mind if you find them averse to it, for they may live to bless you for it. They may be sensitive, imaginative, and have dreamy plans for their future, but the realities of life are stronger than its ideal, and the dreamer is awakened, for even poets must be fed, and enthusiasts cannot exist upon the chameleon's dish. As the life-boat is at the ship's side in the event of storm and wreck, so it is the duty of parents to provide for the need of their offspring some trade that shall be the resource in time of distress.

AN INDIAN MURDER.

A most melancholy occurrence took place at Barrackpore on last Saturday morning in the bungalow of Captain McMullins. His nephew, Mr. Charles Andrew McMullins, who was living with him, and had only arrived in the country about three months ago, was shot through the head by his own bearer. About half-past eight in the morning the report of a musket shot was heard, and a private, who was standing near to the door of the bungalow, heard a noise immediately after of the breaking of some bottles. He went up to the door and saw the bearer running away as fast as his legs could carry him. He was met at the stables of the next bungalow by a boy, and since that time he has not been seen or heard of. Mr. McMullins having been in the habit of firing his gun in his own verandah the inmates of the house were not at all alarmed at the report of the gun, nor did it strike the soldier who saw the bearer running away as anything unusual. About forty minutes after the report, Mrs. McMullins, the mother of the deceased had occasion to go into her son's room, and was horror-struck to see him lying just below the steps of his verandah in a pool of blood. Two doctors who examined the body were of opinion that the wound could not have been caused by accident, or by an attempt at self-destruction, as the wound was on the back of the head; the hair was all singed and the neck was black with powder; that the gun must have been fired within an inch of his head, and held on a level with it, which appeared to be so from the direction the shot had taken. An inquest was held on the spot within an hour after the sad occurrence, and the verdict of the jury was "Wilful murder against some person or persons unknown." What could possibly have been the motive for so daring an act it is impossible to say. The deceased, it is said, had treated his bearer and the other servants most kindly. The only cause appears to be the circumstance of the deceased having shot a monkey the day previous, and it is said the bearer, being an up-country Hindoo, and one who venerated the animal, considered himself bound, at the cost of his own life, to revenge himself for the supposed wrong. The deceased was about nineteen years of age, and the son of Major McMullins, who is now at Umballah.—*Bengal Harkara.*



SUNRISE ON THE HILLS.

I stood upon the hills, when heaven's wide arch
Was glorious with the sun's returning march,
And woods were brightened, and soft gales
Went forth to kiss the sun-clad vales.
The clouds were far beneath me,—bathed in light,
They gathered midway round the wooded height;
And in their faded glory shone,
Like hosts in battle overthrown.

The veil of cloud was lifted, and below,
Glowed the rich valley, and the river's flow
Was darkened by the forest's shade,
Or glistened in the white cascade;
Where upward, in the mellow blush of day,
The noisy bittern wheeled his spiral way.

Then, o'er the vale, with gentle swell,
The music of the village bell
Came sweetly to the echo-giving hills,
And the wild horn, whose voice the woodland fills,
Was ringing to the merry shout
That, faint and far, the glen sent out.

If thou art worn and hard beset
With sorrows that thou wouldst forget,—
If thou wouldst read a lesson that will keep
Thy heart from fainting and thy soul from sleep
Go to the woods and hills—no tears
Dim the sweet look that Nature wears.

LONGFELLOW.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON THE LONDON AND NORTH-WESTERN RAILWAY.

On Sunday morning an accident, which has unfortunately proved fatal, if not to two, at least to one individual, occurred near Wolverton Station, on the above line of railway, through a collision under the following circumstances:—It appears that an up cattle train left Crewe at the usual hour to proceed to the cattle station of the North London Railway, in York-road, King's-cross. The train, which was heavily laden with cattle, carried, in addition to the usual railway servants, Messrs. Niser, Dunn, and O'Donoghue, persons well known at the New Cattle Market as cattle-jobbers, and the owners of the cattle in the train.

The train, after it left Crewe, proceeded at a steady pace until near the Wolverton Station, when the parties in charge heard a train approaching them at a very rapid pace. This turned out to be a coal train, but before it could be brought up (it is stated that everything was done by those on the cattle train to give the necessary signals to the approaching train to prevent an accident) a fearful collision took place.

The truck in which the above-named three persons were was smashed to atoms, and the trucks for some distance up the train were also served in the same way. We regret to state that one of the persons riding in the train was killed on the spot, and the other two were seriously injured, one of them so much so that he is not expected to survive.

Several of the cattle were killed, and a great number were so cut and bruised about that they were fendered unfit for the present to be sent to market.

The regular traffic of the line was for some time blocked, which caused the up mail train to be considerably beyond its time before its arrival in London.

It was stated that none of the company's servants were injured.

ANOTHER FATAL EXPLOSION OF A PARAFFIN LAMP.

On Saturday afternoon, Mr. J. Humphreys opened an inquiry at the Duke of Clarence Tavern, Rotherfield-street, Islington, concerning the death of Mr. J. H. Cotherall, aged thirty-eight years, who died from the mortal effects of burns caused by the explosion of a paraffin oil lamp, under the following circumstances:—

Mrs. Cotherall, of No. 12, Suffolk-street, Rotherfield-street Islington, said: I resided with the deceased, who was my brother. He was a law clerk, and I used to purchase paraffin oil for him at Mr. Archer's, New North-road, once a week. On the evening of the 17th ult., about half-past eight o'clock, the deceased and I were replenishing the lamp, when I poured the oil into it while deceased was holding a lighted candle within three or four inches, to see if I had put enough oil into it. I was in the act of putting the cork into the can to place it on the floor, when the lamp suddenly exploded. I am quite certain that the light did not come in contact with the oil. I believe that the vapour from the oil must have arisen from the aperture of the lamp. The deceased was burnt from the arms and upwards to his face. On the day after the explosion a tall thin young man called, and said that he was to take the can away to have the paraffin oil tested. I gave it to the person, as I did not know anything was wrong.

Coroner: Have you seen anything of the oil-can or the tall young man since?

Witness: No, sir, I have not, and do not know where to meet the young man, or find the oil-can.

Mr. William Adcock Burrows, surgeon, 43, Rotherfield-street, Islington, said: I was called to deceased on Monday, the 17th ult., and found him suffering from severe burns. I prescribed and attended to him, but he gradually became worse, and died on the next day from the shock to the system from the burns.

Mr. Archer here produced samples of oil from the firm he dealt with (the Nonpareil Oil Company) and a sample from Mr. Young. None of the samples he produced had been in his possession when the accident occurred. He had none of the oil left which was in his possession when the explosion took place.

At this stage of the proceedings, the coroner said the case was one of such public importance that he should deem it his duty to adjourn the inquiry for a week. The investigation was accordingly adjourned.

TERRIBLE BOILER EXPLOSION.

A DISASTROUS explosion of boilers took place at the Fenton Park Furnaces (belonging to Messrs. Lawton and Co.), on Friday morning. At these works are two blast furnaces, worked by an engine which is supplied with four boilers. Only one of the furnaces was in work on Friday morning, and one of the four boilers was out. Just after six o'clock, James Buckley, the engine-tenter, having finished his night's work, reported to the furnace-manager that all was right, then he returned to the engine-house to put on his jacket, and as he was leaving the building to go home an explosion of the three boilers took place, the engine-house was thrown down instantly and the poor fellow, fearfully burnt and scalded, was buried beneath the ruins. The effects of the explosion were terrible. The boilers, each nearly thirty feet long, had been erected alongside each other, close to one side of the engine-house, and were bricked over. The explosion not only shattered the engine-house to pieces, but demolished one of the furnaces, and every building in the vicinity was injured by the shock, as well as by the fragments of iron and the bricks, which were thrown with tremendous force a great distance. One of the boilers was carried, nearly whole, a distance of 400 yards, and the greater part of another was thrown nearly as far in another direction. Pieces of iron and bricks were scattered in all directions, striking the cottages on the estate, and even those at a more considerable distance, tearing the roofs, breaking windows, scorching furniture, and doing other kinds of damage. Close to the scene of the explosion the broken boilers and bricks were flying about in showers, rendering it dangerous for any person to be in the vicinity. Two men were struck by flying projectiles, and badly burnt. The engine-house was left a mass of ruins, scarcely a brick on the whole of one side, and portions of two other sides, being left in its place. Only an ugly heap of dusty bricks remains of the building. The smithies, carpenters' shops, foundry yard, and other buildings on the works were shattered and rendered almost useless. The explosion was heard a mile and a half and two miles off, and created great consternation throughout the district. As soon as the facts became known Buckley was dug out of his fiery grave as soon as possible, but he was quite dead, being fearfully burnt and scorched. He leaves a wife and family to lament his death. There can be no doubt that the explosion is to be attributed to his negligence in not keeping the boilers properly supplied with water, letting the water get low, and then pumping cold water into the highly-heated boiler. He had been seven years in Messrs. Lawton's employ, and had always been before a steady, trustworthy man; but he seems to have neglected his duty on this occasion, perhaps by falling asleep. The damage is estimated at between £4,000 and £5,000, and, unfortunately, Messrs. Lawton will have to bear the whole of the loss.

THE best thing for a short young lady to do—get "spliced." LAZINESS will cover your garden with weeds. Hard drinking, if you keep it up, will cover your wife with weeds.

THE MAN LEFT BEHIND BY THE NARCISSUS.

The affair of the "man missing" from the *Narcissus's* boat, on a desolate island in the mouth of Delgoa Bay, appears to be entirely enveloped in mystery. There are various opinions afloat as to whether due diligence was used in searching for him, and great blame is ascribed to those in authority. It appears that a boat, in charge of a responsible officer, was sent with despatches to the mainland. Amongst the party were the ward-room and gun-room messmen, with the intention of procuring supplies for their respective messes. On their way to the mainland they stopped at this island to have some "shooting." The party had shot several birds, and were returning to the boat to embark, when the gun-room messman, Featherstone, said to his companions, "I think I saw some more birds drop in yonder bush; I will go and hunt them up, and return in ten minutes"—a long, very long ten minutes for the unfortunate man. A slight, ineffectual search was made for him. The boat's crew roared and hallooed with all their might, and guns were fired. The officer in charge being obliged to leave, left three or four men on the island. These were afraid to enter the jungle, and merely searched the seashore. Other accounts say that two boats' crews searched the island throughout. This is again denied by others, so that it is difficult to come at the truth of the matter. One startling fact is, that no report of the occurrence was made to the authorities on the mainland. It is said that a "naked savage" was seen on this island, and one solitary canoe to leave it. Accounts differ as to whether this canoe was overhauled. The only conclusion we can arrive at is, that Featherstone was seized for the purpose of being robbed. Mr. Featherstone was a highly respectable, quiet, unobtrusive individual, well respected by all who knew him. We trust that, for the sake of humanity, and for the credit of the service, this matter will be thoroughly cleared up by those who have it in their power to do so.—*Cape and Natal News.*



TOO LATE FOR THE BOAT.

THE Lake of Killarney, or Lough-Lane, consists properly of three lakes connected by a winding channel, from which vessels pass from one to the other. The largest division of the lake, or that portion called the lower lake, occupies an area of about 3,000 Irish acres. Its west shore is formed by the mountains of Tornies and Glenna, respectively 2,150 and 2,090 feet above the level of the sea. The middle lake occupies about 640 Irish acres: it lies immediately under the Fore or Turk Mountain, elevated about 1,900 feet. The strait which joins the middle and upper lake is about three miles in length, having in many places the appearance of a beautiful river. The upper lake contains about 720 Irish acres. These lakes abound in beautiful islands, and to visit them tourists journey from all parts. The peasantry around, however, are for the most part importunate beggars; but now and then we meet with such a one as "Old Rooney," whose honest face, as given in our little sketch, tells also of his belief in the fairies that sing their wild melodies over these beautiful waters. The young Irish peasant, too, shows the characteristic grace of many of these poor shoeless mountain girls, who, with basket under arm, trudge for miles round these lakes with fruits, or flowers, or other little commodities to sell to the visitors. She has arrived to late this time. The party of visitors have left the shore; and Old Rooney, tired with showing them about, has seated himself on a bank to rest, and is now pointing out the boat to the little maid, telling her "Faix, an' she'd have sould all her basket had she come before the jintle-folks had gone."

ANOTHER CALAMITOUS FIRE AND LOSS OF LIFE.

ON Monday morning the densely-populated neighbourhood of Bermondsey was painfully excited by the outbreak of a fire in the premises numbered 43, Weston-street, near the new leather market. The house was only three floors high, and was let out in tenements to several families and medical students. At an early hour in the morning, a student named Griffith noticed a strong smell of burning, and at once gave an alarm. A man named Treavers-horne, having a wife and family living at Bromley, connected with one of the City wholesale houses, lodged in the house, going to his family only on the Saturday night and returning on the Sunday evening. He returned on Sunday at his usual time, and retired to bed. Upon the fire being discovered, one of the inmates went three times into the unfortunate man's room, and begged of him to escape. He, however, would insist upon remaining to dress himself. While so doing, one of the lower doors gave way, and the heated smoke and fire rushed up the staircase, and filled the whole of the rooms on the two upper floors. Mrs. Lowder, a lodger, who, after bringing her children down, returned again to save some of her property, was so badly burned that she was obliged to be removed to the hospital.

The Royal Society's escape from Tooley-street attended, when the conductor having entered the room which Mr. Treavershorne was occupying, searched for him, and called to him, but not seeing or hearing him, naturally concluded he had made his escape. Engines were at once called into operation, but the flames could not be extinguished until the whole of the upper portions of the building were destroyed, including the furniture, wearing apparel, &c., of the various residents. About two hours after the outbreak, upon one of the firemen entering an upper room, he discovered, to his astonishment, the legs of a man projecting from under the bedstead. Upon closer examination, he found that it was the man who had been so frequently warned to escape. Remaining to dress himself, he must have been overpowered by the heated smoke, and in order, if possible, to avoid suffocation, had crawled under the bedstead, and in that position became suffocated. The body was forthwith removed to await an inquest. The origin of the calamity is unknown. Not one of the sufferers was insured.

A GOLDEN DISCOVERY.—At a recent sale of the effects of an eminent collector, late of Park-lane, among other articles an antique chest was purchased by the Rev. Mr. Price, of Hyde-park-gardens, to whose residence it was removed. On examining the interior, Mr. Price was surprised in finding secreted therein the sum of £240, which had evidently reposed in security for a long series of years. The treasure was immediately returned to the proper parties.

BREAD FROM GERMINATING WHEAT.—Professor Nickels has recently directed the attention of the Agricultural Society of Nancy (France) to a very simple process of treating germinating wheat, so as to make it fit for use in bread. The two principal ingredients in wheat are starch and gluten, both of which are insoluble in water, but become soluble after germination. Thus the starch becomes dextrine; the gluten loses that elasticity necessary to make good dough, and the bread made from it is heavy, indigestible, and injurious to health. By the addition of salt, however, the gluten is restored to its natural insolubility, and is rendered fit for making good bread. Mr. Nickels ascertained that about 4oz. of salt mixed with 13lb. of flour from germinated wheat, yield about 17lb. of excellent bread. About 2lb. of salt, worth 1½d., will be sufficient for 11lb. of flour, producing about 143lb. of bread.—*Bilder.*

DESTRUCTION BY FIRE OF TWO FACTORIES.—Two fires of a very destructive character, one at Dewsbury and the other at Biddulph, have taken place. The Dewsbury fire resulted in the destruction of a large cotton manufactory, the damage done being estimated at £5,000; and that at Biddulph swept away the Hirst Mill, where the silk-throwing business was carried on.

DISTRESS IN THE WEST OF IRELAND.—A meeting has been held in Dublin, the Lord Mayor in the chair, to consider the best mode of relieving the distress in the west of Ireland. Mr. M'Swiney said that the inmates of the workhouses were 21½ per cent. more than they were this time last year. Archbishop Cullen said that the distress was not confined to one district, and moved a resolution to the effect that a committee should be formed to receive subscriptions for the relief of distress wherever it should be found. The resolution was seconded by Dr. Gray, and passed with an addendum, that the whole of the town council should be members of the committee.



THE LAKE OF COMO.

MORE pleased, my foot the hidden margin roves
Of Como, bosomed deep in chestnut groves.
No meadows thrown between; the giddy steep
Tower bare or sylvan from the narrow deeps,
To towns, whose shades of no rude sound complain,
To ringing team unknown and grating wain,
To flat-roofed towns that touch the water's bound,
Or lurk in woody, sunless glens profound,

Or from the bending rocks obtrusive cling,
And o'er the whitened wave their shadows fling,
The viewless lingerer hence, at evening, sees
From rock-hewn steps the boat between the trees.
Here half a village shines, in gold array'd,
Bright as the moon; half hides itself in shade.
From the dark, sylvan roofs the restless spire,
Inconstant glancing, mounts like springing fire.
There, all unshaded, dosing forests throw
Rich golden verdure on the lake below.

Slow glides the boat along the illumined shore,
And steals into the shade the lazy oar,
How blessed, delicious scene, the eye that greets
Thy open beauties or thy lone retreats!
The cots those dim religious groves embower,
Or under rocks that from the water tower
Insinuated, sprinkling all the shore—
Each with his household best beside the door.

WORDSWORTH.

THE COURT.

OSBORNE, FEB. 21.

Her Majesty, accompanied by Princess Helena, and attended by Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Dudley de Ros, drove out on Sunday afternoon.

The Crown Princess of Prussia, Princess Helena, and Prince Arthur, attended Divine Service at Whippingham Church this morning.

Her Serene Highness Princess Hohenzollern left Osborne on Friday, accompanied by Prince Victor Hohenlohe and suite, on her return to the Continent on Saturday, travelling in the South-Eastern Railway Company's royal saloon carriage to Folkestone.

We (*the Aberdeen Herald*) understand that, as presently intended, the Queen will come to Balmoral this season on or about the 1st of May, and make a stay of a month. Arrangements to this end will very soon be made at the highland palace.

Her Royal Highness the Duchess of Cambridge has quite recovered from her recent cold, and has been able to take carriage riding during the latter part of the week.

THE PRINCESS ALICE AT SOUTHAMPTON.

Her Royal Highness the Princess Alice, attended by Lady Caroline Barrington and Lieutenant-Colonel the Hon. Dudley de Ros, Equerry to her Majesty, landed in the docks at Southampton on Wednesday week, from the royal yacht *Fairy*, Master Commander Christian, en route from Osborne to Windsor, on a visit to the Belgian Minister, M. Van de Weyer.

An illustration of the landing of the Princess we give on page 528.

ARMY, NAVY, AND VOLUNTEERS.

VOLUNTEER FUNERAL.—On Saturday afternoon the remains of Charles Durant, a member of the band of the Royal Arsenal Artillery, were interred at the Woolwich Cemetery with full military honours. The funeral procession, which was witnessed by a large multitude of spectators, included five volunteer bands, a firing party, and the members of the corps to which the deceased had belonged.

THE HORNSEY RIFLES.—The honorary and effective members and officers of the 13th Middlesex (Hornsey) Rifles—one of the corps now composing the second administrative battalion—entertained a numerous muster of guests at dinner at the Manor House, Stoke Newington, on Saturday evening. Other metropolitan volunteer corps were strongly represented on the occasion. Captain Warner, of the 13th, occupied the chair. The evening passed off in a very gratifying and harmonious manner. A variety of vocal and instrumental music enlivened the proceedings.

FREEMASONRY AND THE VOLUNTEERS.—The Tower Hamlets Engineers' Lodge, No. 1,204, in connection with the Tower Hamlets Engineer Volunteers, was consecrated last week at the Ship and Turtle, the ceremony being performed by Br. Stephen Barton Wilson, J.G.D. There were nearly fifty brethren present, and upwards of twenty past masters of other lodges.

FIRST MIDDLESEX ENGINEERS.—The members of the First Middlesex Engineer Volunteers held their second annual meeting on Saturday last at South Kensington. The chairman, Lieut.-Colonel Richard J. Macleod, explained to the members the financial position of the corps, which the auditors had reported as very satisfactory.

THIRD MIDDLESEX ARTILLERY.—On Saturday evening this regiment paraded at Taylor's Depository, near the Elephant and Castle, Newington, for inspection by the commanding officer, Lieut.-Colonel Lord Truro. The principal object of the parade was the inspection of No. 6 Battery, which is composed of employees in Messageries and Field's engineering establishments. The men being assembled on the platform, No. 6 Battery was put through the manual and platoon exercises, and from the smart and soldierly manner in which these were executed, it is very evident that great care and attention have been displayed in their drill.

TWENTY-SECOND MIDDLESEX (QUEEN'S, WESTMINSTER).—On Saturday afternoon a very lively scene took place in Westminster Hall, on the occasion of the parade of the Queen's Westminster. The hall was thronged with spectators. This fine regiment numbers ten companies, and numbers upwards of 500 men, under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Lord Gerald Fitz-Gerald, assisted by Capt. J. W. Bushby, who acted as adjutant. Shortly after 4.30 the regiment left the hall in light marching order, and proceeded en route through Grosvenor-place, Belgrave-square, to Hyde-park, for battalion drill.

It is rumoured in military circles that Major-General Richard Graves will be appointed to the Colony of the 40th Regiment, vacant by the promotion of General Sir Alexander Woodford to the Scots Fusilier Guards.

The command of the steam reserve ordinary at Chatham has been conferred on Captain Thompson, who has assumed the command of the Cumberland, 74, guardship, in the Medway, in succession to Captain Schomburg, who has joined the Edinburgh, 60, screw coast-guard ship, at Queensferry, Scotland.

THE CONTROL OF THE VOLUNTEERS.

In discussing the relations of the volunteers with the military authorities, some of our contemporaries have been lately giving currency to a very erroneous idea, viz., that the volunteers are under the control of the Horse Guards. The volunteers are under the direction of Her Majesty, as represented by her Secretary of State for War. They are amenable to him, within certain specified bounds, once their services are accepted; but unless they are actually embodied, they have no relation whatever with the authorities at the Horse Guards. We must just as well read of Admiralty interference with the volunteers as of the Horse Guards' interference, out of which such a tremendous nothing appears to be made.—*Army and Navy Gazette*.

HARTLEY AND MERTHYR.

TO THE EDITOR.

SIR,—By the sad colliery accident near Merthyr Tydvil, 49 men and boys have lost their lives, 60 children are left fatherless, 20 women are made widows, and 6 widows, who were supported by their sons, are deprived of their stay—in all, 86 persons are thus left helpless and unprovided for. As the Hartley fund is considerably more than needed to provide permanently for those left helpless by that calamity, the surplus might well be applied to the relief of those who are made destitute by any similar catastrophe. At all events I feel confident that in appropriating a portion of the surplus for the relief of those bereaved by the more recent calamity, a most proper use of the money would be made, and one which would meet with the approval of the donors generally.—I am, Sir, Haverfordwest, Feb. 22.

THOMAS VAUGHAN.

THE DANGERS OF CRENOLINE.—During the last three months there has been no less than eighteen deaths of females clearly attributable to the fashion of wearing crenoline, reported in the newspapers.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

R. N.—"Lloyd's," originated with a coffee-house keeper of that name, at the corner of Abchurch-lane, Lombard-street. The subscribers now number nearly 2,000, and with the underwriters, represents the greater part of the mercantile wealth of the metropolis.

A POOR WIDOW.—We do not give answers to practical receipts. PAULINE.—Miss Fenton, Miss Fenton, and Miss Paton. The first became Duchess of Bolton; the second, Countess of Derby; and the third, Duchess of St. Albans. Each made her first appearance at the Haymarket.

H. T. T.—Madame Tussaud's Exhibition was first commenced at the Boulevard du Temple, at Paris, in 1780, and shown in London, at the Lyceum, Strand, in 1802. It is said to be the oldest Exhibition in Europe.

A. W. (Kent).—It is difficult to define the distinction between the "legitimate" and "illegitimate" drama. Shakespeare's and all other "classical" works and plays are the accepted "legitimate." While adaptation from the French and dramas dependent upon scenic effects, or "sensational scenes," are generally understood as the "illegitimate."

HOUSLOW.—Thanks for the sketch; but it is not of sufficient public interest to warrant our giving an engraving. Were we to give every volunteer ball, we should be inundated.

WALTER.—The last serious shock of an earthquake in England was on March 8th, 1761. It was felt most severely at the West-end of London, when chimneys were thrown down, and much damage done. It was accompanied by a loud noise as of rushing wind.

AMERICAN.—The celebrated William Penn was born in London in a court on the east side of Tower-hill, April 14th, 1644.

W. M.—The Princess's Theatre was formerly the Queen's Bazaar. It cost £47,000, and was opened September 30th, 1841.

ANTIQUARIAN.—When the Society of Antiquarians was first started, a fine of sixpence was imposed on members for non-attendance.

A. B. M. (Exeter).—Your note is to hand. Your wishes will shortly be complied with. We should imagine your position must be an enviable one.

THE ILLUSTRATED WEEKLY NEWS.

SATURDAY, MARCH 1, 1862.

A NEW era is being inaugurated for India. On the 1st of March the new issue of paper currency begins. The native bankers are full of wrath and fear; and they are believed to be in a plot for making a run on the Bank of Bengal, in hope of knocking over the new arrangement at once—a scheme which will hurt themselves more than anybody else. The usurious money-lenders all along the great rivers, and wherever the country is thickly peopled, are groaning in spirit over the certain loss of much of their enormous profit. They have been the virtual slave-drivers of the community till now, embroiling the peasants, artisans, and small traders with their employers and business connexions, and entangling them with loans, bearing hopeless interest and imposing desperate conditions, so that the borrower was the mere slave of the lender. Henceforth there will be banks within reasonable distances, where business will be done on fixed and well-known terms; and the money-lender, with his ponderous bags and boxes and his enormous charges, will be forsaken for the new plan of making clearances and exchanges and the new form of carrying money, which needs no beast of burden to bear the weight of it, and attracts no attention from the land in the wilds, or the thief on the river. Every approach to any plan of improved money-lending and money-changing was met with such eager satisfaction by the commercial and producing community of India as to leave no reasonable doubt of conspicuous success for the new scheme; and there could not be a better time for making a beginning with a new currency. The land is now thrown open for sale; and accommodation is needed both for purchasing land, and for starting the enterprises to which it is appropriated. The tea cultivation of India is increasing to a marvellous extent; and so, as we shall soon be all aware, is cotton. Every known kind of protection is being pushed in a way never before, and every bit of new road or waterway creates additional industry, and a fresh need of money and banking agency. Wherever the Bank of Bengal has opened a branch, the amount of business offered at once has always exceeded all anticipation. If it was so when there was no paper currency but the limited one of that bank, and no such development of industry as we see following upon the opening of new routes, and the improvement of old ones, and upon enlarged demands of Indian products, there can be no doubt of the eager reception of the trading facilities offered by Mr. Laing's paper currency, and the apparatus by which it is to be managed. The last mail brought us the particulars of the plan in its final form, and for many mails to come we shall have interesting news of its working. The plan is now simple and intelligible enough. We may put out of our heads the perplexity about an infinite number of "circles," which is with some of us the abiding impression from the original scheme of Mr. Wilson. The area within which the new notes will be a legal tender is simply that of the Government of Bengal, with the exception of some specified districts, and with the addition of the districts of Ghazepore, Mirzapore, and Benares, by which the operation of the scheme is extended into the North-West Provinces. The activity of production and trade there makes their admission almost a matter of course; and it is not surprising that branches of the Bank of Bengal are about to be immediately opened at Benares, Mirzapore, Patna, and Dacca. Throughout the area thus defined the new notes will be taken and paid at all treasuries. In its new aspect, the Bank of Bengal will be very like the Bank of England. The agreement between the Government and the Bank bears date the 26th of September last; and it has just been published in full, preceded by a notification that the Treasury of the Indian Government will be, on and from the 1st of March, no longer at Fort William but at the Bank of Bengal. The bank is to provide, at the cost of the Government, such accommodation as may be required by the Head Commissioner of the Department of Issue, and for the safe keeping of the treasure, the books, &c. The Master of the Mint is to be the Head Commissioner of Issue; and at the Mint bullion and coin may be exchanged for notes when the amount is not less than 2,000 rupees. The terms agreed upon are most favourable to the bank; so favourable as to excite the surprise of those who do not consider the importance of gaining the thorough good-will of the establishment at the moment of superseding its note circulation.

The bank is to bear all risks from accidents, forgeries, mistakes in the transaction of business, faults of agents, and loss or damage of any kind. In India, it must be remembered, these risks are much greater than they can ever be in England. On the other hand, the Government Issue Department is to defray all costs of packing and shipping specie, and the banking expenses of collecting, receiving,

and remitting money and securities on account of such business as has hitherto been transacted at the Treasury. The cash balances will be the great source of profit to the bank. As long as those balances do not exceed, in any month, £700,000, the bank has the free use of them, under the provisions of its Charter Act. Any amount in excess of £700,000 is to be reserved for the call of the Government, or invested by the directors for the Government in securities or railway debentures guaranteed by Government, or in discharging Government liabilities under the direction of the Accountant-General or other Government officer.

THE Queen has signified her wishes respecting the national memorial of his Royal Highness the Prince Consort. Her Majesty, after acknowledging in cordial and gracious words the sentiment which the universality and spontaneousness of the movement reveals, declares that a memorial more directly personal to its object than an institution bearing the Prince's name would be most in accordance with her own feelings. This intimation of her Majesty's preference will not only put an end to controversy on the subject; it will, we are convinced, be accepted with gratitude by the country. The lofty usefulness of the Prince's life will be more honoured by simple commemoration than by a weak endeavour to eke it out. The form of the memorial approved by the Queen is an obelisk, with figures of statuary at its base, and its site, that of the Great Exhibition of 1851. Beyond this, the Queen intimates no decision. Her Majesty has, however, called to her assistance a small committee to assist her in the selection of artists to design the memorial and execute its details. The committee will, doubtless, feel that the choice of an obelisk rather than a statue as the central object in the monument increases the importance of the statuary at the base, and makes it more necessary that the groups should satisfactorily represent the various aspects of the Prince's beneficent life. Provided the obelisk be massive and grand, and the statuary expressive and characteristic, we shall have a monument worthy to endure.

THE FATAL FIRE IN THE GRAY'S-INN-ROAD.

ON Monday afternoon, Mr. Brent, deputy-coroner, resumed, at the Globe Tavern, Derby-street, the adjourned inquiry respecting the circumstances attending the deaths of Mrs. Alice Keer, aged twenty-three, and George Keer the younger, aged twelve months, who perished in a fire which occurred on Sunday week in the premises belonging to Mr. A. Grundzberg, corn chandler and seed merchant, situate at No. 17, Chichester-place, Gray's-inn-road. The inquiry excited a painful degree of interest, and the large club-room was densely crowded. Among those present to watch the proceedings were Mr. Sampson Low, the secretary of the Royal Society for the Protection of Life from Fire; Mr. Baddeley, Inspector of the same institution; and Mr. Spencer, another inspector of the society. The inquiry was opened last week for the purpose of identifying the bodies, so that they might be buried, and also to see whether the husband was likely to recover so as to be able to give evidence. Various witnesses were examined yesterday, their evidence being generally confirmatory of the facts already published. Among the witnesses was Mr. Hill, house-surgeon of the Royal Free Hospital, who expressed his belief that Mr. Keer could not last through the day; and he was not in a state to give evidence. The occupier of the premises, Mr. Grundzberg, and the housekeeper, Matilda Baker, were called and examined. The latter stated that everything appeared to be quite secure on the evening previous to the fire. Police-constable 44 G, said that on Sunday morning he heard a rattle springing. He went out, and was told by another constable to go for the escape. He ran to the keeper's box and found him fast asleep, and he had to shake him several times before he could awake, which took three or four minutes. Whilst in the act of locking up his box he told him not to wait as human life was of greater importance than anything he might have therein. He thought the man was drunk, or he could not, in his opinion, have slept so soundly. He seemed to do his work very well after he reached the fire. Henry Michelson, fire-escape conductor at King's-cross, stated that he tried to get into the house, but the fire was raging like a furnace. He could have got round in four or five minutes had he been left alone by the mob. The witness complained strongly of the obstruction offered by the mob to the performance of his duty. He had been in the service of the Royal Society for twelve years. Mr. Palmer, of Chichester-place, expressed his belief that the fire began in the back kitchen, among the straw. There was a lapse of twenty minutes before the fire-escape arrived. The coroner having summed up the evidence, the jury, after consultation, returned a verdict, "that the deceased were accidentally burned to death, but that there was no evidence to prove how the fire occurred." They also expressed their regret at the apparent delay which occurred before the arrival of the fire-escape after the discovery of the fire. While the jury were in consultation they were informed that Mr. Keer had just expired. The proceedings occupied more than six hours.

MEETING OF DURHAM PITMEN.—A very numerously attended meeting of the pitmen connected with the collieries of the county of Durham was held in the Town-hall of the city of Durham on Saturday last, for the purpose of considering the propriety of petitioning Parliament in favour of the double-shaft system, &c. Mr. Joseph Liddell moved a resolution in favour of petitioning Parliament to appoint a number of sub-inspectors, in addition to the present inspectors, from the class of intelligent practical pitmen, and to render it compulsory upon all coalowners, under certain regulations, to work their pits with double shafts. The motion was unanimously adopted. Messrs. George Macklevey, Robert Walton, William Robson, and Terence Casey, afterwards spoke at considerable length in favour of the double-shaft system; and a petition, embodying the views of the speakers, was afterwards unanimously agreed to. Resolutions were also passed in favour of the establishment of a permanent fund of a national character for the relief of the widows and orphans of those who were killed by accidents in coal mines.—*Sheffield Independent*.

SHOCKING ACCIDENT ON THE MIDLAND RAILWAY.—On Saturday night a serious accident occurred on the Midland railway. It appears that a middle-aged man, named Charles Bird, an engine-man at one of the collieries of Messrs. Colshaw and Wethered, at Pucklechurch, left Soundwell to walk on the line to his home at Pucklechurch. It is supposed that becoming weary he lay down and fell asleep, and that a train came up shortly afterwards and passed over his legs. The accident was not discovered at the time, and the poor fellow remained, in a frightfully mutilated state, on the line till Sunday morning, when, on being discovered, he was conveyed to the Bristol Royal Infirmary. The medical officers of that institution attended him without delay. They found that each of his legs had received a compound comminuted fracture—one of them, in fact, being almost entirely severed from the body—and his head and neck exhibited severely contused wounds. In the course of Sunday both legs were amputated, and the other injuries dressed, but it is not expected that the poor fellow can survive. He has a wife and several small children.

Home News.

THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND THE SUNDAY LEAGUE.—The Bishop of London having, in the course of a recent discussion in the Lords, spoken of the pressure made to procure the opening on the Lord's-day of places of amusement hitherto closed on that day, the Secretary of the Sunday League has written to his lordship, declaring that that body, the only one which is moving in the matter, does not ask for the opening of places of amusement on Sunday, but seeks to make the public museums, galleries, and libraries places of resort for the industrial classes on Sunday for their instruction.

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY FUND.—The total amount received at the Mansion House, by the Lord Mayor, in aid of the fund for the relief of the widows and orphans of the sufferers by the accident at the Hartley Colliery, up to Saturday evening, was about £18,350, of which more than £250 came to hand during Friday and Saturday.

PORTRAIT OF PRINCE ALBERT.—The Queen has signified her intention of giving a portrait of the Prince Consort to the National Portrait Gallery.

SPECIAL CHURCH SERVICES.—Arrangements are in progress for holding special services during the time of the approaching Great International Exhibition in many of the principal churches of the metropolis. The services will be held under the direction of the Bishop of London, with the assistance of the archbishops and bishops and other dignitaries of the Church of England, many of whom will preach.

THE HARTLEY COLLIERY FUND.—The sums placed by passengers in the subscription boxes of the London-bridge Station of the South-Eastern Railway Company amount to £35 3s. 7d.

THE GOLDSMITH'S COMPANY.—The Goldsmith's Company have presented to the Orphan Working School, Haverstock-hill, £50 in aid of the expenses arising out of the enlargement of the school building for 400 poor orphan children.

PROVINCIAL NEWS.

EXTRAORDINARY OUTRAGE IN SHEFFIELD.—An occurrence of a very serious and extraordinary character took place in Devonshire-street last week. The Sheffield Equitable and Industrial Co-operative Society carry on their business at the shop, 127, Devonshire-street, and the room over the shop is used as the society's office. About nine o'clock in the evening the finance committee of the society were met together in the office for the purpose of paying the town accounts, and were suddenly alarmed by the report of a pistol, the smashing of one of the panes of glass in the window, and the entrance of a bullet. The window blind was down at the time, but persons in the street could see the shadows of those in the room. Inside the windows are a number of iron bars, as a security against thieves, and in all probability their presence has been the means of preserving the life of the secretary of the above society. He was standing near the window when the shot was fired, and his shadow could be distinctly seen on the blind. Fortunately, the bullet struck one of the iron bars, and the concussion was so great that the missile was broken, and its direction consequently changed. Strange to say, though Devonshire-street is a great thoroughfare, there were no persons near at the time the shot was fired. —*Sheffield Daily Telegraph.*

DEATH OF A CENTENARIAN.—Ann Dunning, a widow, of Upper High-street, Taunton, has recently died, at the patriarchal age of 105. Up to the time of her death the old lady was in full possession of her faculties, and was frequently accustomed, until within a short time since, to take active bodily exercise, sometimes walking many miles in the course of a day. —*Western Counties Herald.*

MELANCHOLY FATE OF "STEEPLE JACK."—A daring Sheffield man, who from his feats in affixing lightning conductors to high steeples, and in repairing factory chimneys, had earned for himself the title of "Steeple Jack," met with a shocking death last week. His real name is Charles Faulkner. Mr. Hainsworth, ironfounder, is the contractor for the iron-work for a large cotton factory in course of erection, for Mr. Edwin Leayard, and the deceased was employed at the place. About eight o'clock he was engaged on the third story of the unfinished building, and while walking on a narrow plank, his foot slipped, and he fell a distance of about forty feet. His head came in contact with one of the iron beams of the basement story, which drove in the skull, and caused immediate death.

A LARGE COLLIERY EXPLOSION PREVENTED BY THE PROPER USE OF THE SAFETY LAMP.—The hard coal pits at the Shipley Colliery, Derbyshire, during the past four years, have safely passed through no less than four large and sudden discharges of explosion which, but for the safety lamps, would have caused the deaths of upwards of 200 human beings. Recently another large discharge of gas took place, which filled a district of the mine to the explosive point for two hours, and then cleared away. The men working with Stephenson's lamps were warned of it by the lamps going out; and those using Davy lamps quietly retired. A current of air moving six feet per second was passing through the workings at the time. That valuable instrument, the "Safety Lamp," cannot be too highly prized. —*Reporter.*

DIABOLICAL OUTRAGE.—Some miscreant entered, on Saturday morning, the back parlour of the Market Hotel, Durham, in which two females were seated, and placed a canister containing, it is supposed, upwards of a pound of gunpowder on the fire. He then coolly walked out, and shortly afterwards the powder exploded with tremendous force, blowing down a wooden partition which divided the room from that adjoining. The females happily escaped uninjured. The police have been searching for the offender.

PROPOSED ESTABLISHMENT OF A FAT STOCK SHOW AT BRIGHTON.—On Thursday afternoon a meeting was held at the Town-hall, Brighton, to take into consideration the subject of forming a fat stock show at Brighton, to be held in December. A resolution in favour of the object was carried unanimously.

CORONER'S INQUEST.—On Saturday last Mr. Cartar, coroner for West Kent, held an inquest at the Eagle Tavern, Beresford-street, Woodwich, on the body of John Fox, a sailor belonging to the schooner Seafower, lying off the Royal Arsenal. The evidence proved that the deceased, whilst engaged in releasing a boat from the stern of the vessel, fell overboard and was drowned. Verdict, "Accidental death."

THE ALLEGED FORGERIES BY A DERRY SOLICITOR.—On Saturday last, at the Derby police-office, Mr. Joseph Shaw, solicitor, and late high sheriff of the Derby County Court, was brought up on remand on several charges of forgeries. The number of forged mortgages and securities upon which the prisoner contrived to borrow vast sums of money is surprising. The first charge brought against him was for having obtained the sum of £600 from Mr. Adlett, giving him a deed of mortgage on property belonging to Mr. Hives, of Ilkeston, which was proved to be fictitious, and the signatures of all the contracting parties thereto forgeries. The second charge was that the prisoner had obtained the advance of £100 from the trustees of the Prudence Lodge of the Ancient Druids, on the security of a mortgage of the property of a Mr. Wilder, to which all the signatures, except his own, were forgeries. The third case was another mortgage of the Ilkeston property, made to a Mr. Croxson, of Staffordshire, the signatures of the deed being all forgeries, and in the prisoner's own handwriting. The three charges were all proved against the prisoner, and he was committed to take his trial at the next assizes, bail being refused. There were five other charges of forgery of the same character against the prisoner, but the magistrates declined to go into them till Saturday (this day).

MELANCHOLY DEATH.—An inquest was held on Saturday at the Five Bells, New-cross, on the body of William Mudd, aged forty-

six, a butcher, who died suddenly on Monday last. The deceased, who was in the service of Mr. Bernard, Hatcham Park, was found lying on his face in the wood-house. There was rather a severe laceration on his face, as if caused by a fall, but nothing further to account for death. He had before complained of a humming in his head. Verdict, "Natural Death."

THE HARTLEY PIT.—Men are now busily engaged in drawing the pumps and spears out of the Hartley Pit. It was supposed that the pumps were very much damaged, but this is not the case, as only some few are injured. It is not yet known whether the colliery will be opened out again or not, but it is generally believed that Lord Hastings will never allow the pit to remain drowned up. The large heap of the best coal is now being carted away to supply the widows and orphans.

APPREHENSION OF AN ABERDEENSHIRE FORGER.—About ten days ago information was received at the police-office here that a farmer and cattle dealer, in an extensive way of business, near Aberdeen, had absconded, he being charged with a numerous and systematic series of forgeries. The name of the culprit was given as James Low, and it was stated that he was believed to have proceeded to Liverpool, for the purpose of emigrating. A minute description of the fugitive was given, and Eaton, the detective officer, was entrusted with the necessary inquiries. After a careful investigation, a man answering the description of Low, but who gave the name of James Wilson, was discovered in a boarding-house, in Union-street, and taken into custody on Saturday. On searching him, documents of various kinds, including bills for different amounts, were found on him, which clearly identified him as the runaway cattle dealer from Aberdeen. He had been residing at the boarding-house, where he was found for better than a week, and had paid for his passage to Australia. He had only £12 or £14 on him when taken. A telegraph message was immediately despatched to Aberdeen, intimating his capture. It appears that, after his arrival in London, Low went to London to embark, but not finding a ship there he returned to this port, where, as already stated, he was captured. —*Liverpool Albion.*

ANOTHER COLLIERY ACCIDENT, NEAR MOLD.—Three more lives have been lost by an accident which occurred at one of the pits belonging to the Messrs. Darlington, between Hawarden and King's Ferry. Three men, named Prince, Jones, and Weigh, were engaged in repairing the pit, standing on a suspended stage, when one of the connecting ropes broke, and the unfortunate men were precipitated down the pit into water about ten yards deep, and were drowned. Two of the bodies have been recovered.

THE FENTON PARK BOILER EXPLOSION.—An inquest was held on Saturday on the body of James Buckley, who was killed by the boiler explosion at Fenton-park Furnaces on the previous day, under the circumstances already recorded in our columns. Mr. Lawton, one of the proprietors of the works, was present, as also was Mr. Wynne, her Majesty's Inspector of Mines, who attended at the request of Mr. Harding, the coroner, with a view to assist the jury in their investigations. The overlooker of the furnaces stated that the machinery was in good order up to the time of the explosion. He then described the facts in connexion with the catastrophe, and expressed his opinion that Buckley must have let one of the boilers get out, as it seemed to have been heated without water. George Berks, the day engine tender, said he went to work a little before six on Friday morning, when Buckley told him the engines were all right. The engines were going slowly, and he was oiling the valves. The extent of pressure on the gauge the day before was 40 lbs. He heard the whistles of Nos. 1 and 2 boilers blow the night before. No. 3 boiler was not quite full of water when he left on Thursday night, but it was safe. He thought the explosion was caused by some of the boilers being empty. The coroner said there seemed to have been a dereliction of duty on the part of the deceased—an opinion in which Mr. Wynne concurred. Mr. Wynne added, that he had examined the boilers, and he could find no flaw in them. The jury immediately returned a verdict of "Accidental death."

ANOTHER DISASTER TO THE GREAT EASTERN—LOSS OF LIFE AND GALLANT RESCUE.

The operation of putting the Great Eastern on the gridiron at Neyland, was not accomplished, unfortunately, without the loss of life. The ship left her moorings at Milford on Sunday, and was taken up the Haven. On rounding the Wear Point, passing the Blenheim, and up to the Hazlebeach, she steamed at half-speed, as it was Capt. Iveny's intention to put her nose on the mud a little below the gridiron, so that she might swing, and come stern round with the rising tide. For this purpose strong hawsers were brought to shore, and others attached to the accompanying pilot-tugs, but in performing this necessary duty a most deplorable accident occurred. Lord Frederick Ker, of the Blenheim, had sent a boat to assist in carrying the hawsers, and otherwise to render help. A rope was thrown from the Great Eastern to the Blenheim boat, which was quickly fastened round one of the thwart of the boat. While this was being done the hawser was rapidly paid out from the ship, and it is supposed the tide drifted the slack or bight of the hawser under the screw, for instantly the rope got foul in one of the fans, and the first revolution drew the Blenheim boat right in upon the screw. Thirteen of the men, seeing their imminent danger, threw themselves into the water; the remaining four failed to escape in time, and the boat was rapidly sucked into the maelstrom formed by the screw revolutions. All hope seemed to have abandoned them, when one of the fans threw the boat up, and then drew it between the screw and the vessel. The accident was so unexpected and so sudden that it was impossible even to cut the rope before the boat was sucked in upon the screw. The four men were speedily rescued from their dangerous position, and the screw was then gently moved, in order, if possible, to let the boat down uninjured. The first rise of the fan, however, smashed her in atoms, and the pieces of her wreck were whirled about in all directions by the rapidly incoming tide. Meanwhile the situation of the men in the water was most perilous. They had flung themselves out of the boat into the very rush of the tide, which was coming up with racehorse speed, and in a moment or two they were carried some hundred yards from the scene of the accident, and were widely scattered over the water. A seaman standing on the quarter-deck of the Great Eastern, seeing one of the men struggling in the water, seized a rope and sprang into the boiling flood beneath. The noble fellow, striking out, seized the sinking man by the hair of the head, and held him up above water, and presently a boat came and took them both in. Another man, named Harry Rees, succeeded in rescuing two of the men; and altogether eleven were brought safely to the shore. The other two were drowned. But to return to the Great Eastern. The hawsers parted before the chains could be got out, and the mighty vessel drifted almost helplessly down the Channel, and struck the Blenheim. The Blenheim's bowsprit and jib-boom, and foreyard, as well as her moorings, were completely carried away, and it is feared that her forecastle also is seriously sprung. In this collision the little steamer, Milford Haven, had a narrow escape from destruction. She was actually between the Blenheim and the Great Eastern when the latter was only a few yards from the former. The Milford Haven then used her wheels to some purpose, and just managed to get from between the two ponderous bodies when the crash was heard. The Great Eastern, having passed the broadside of the Blenheim, anchored just below in mid-stream. On Monday morning the Great Eastern steamed up again to the gridiron, and in about an hour was successfully placed upon it, without any further accident or mishap.

SPORTING
LATEST BETTING.

LINCOLN HANDBICAP.—3 to 1 agst. Arcturion (off); 7 to 1 agst. Suburban (off); 8 to 1 agst. Zuleika (off); 9 to 1 agst. Shropshire (off); 10 to 1 agst. Dora (off); 20 to 1 agst. Brown Stock (off); 20 to 1 agst. Queen of Spain (off); 20 to 1 agst. Chrysalis (off); 20 to 1 agst. Miss Livingstone (off); 20 to 1 agst. Gwendolyn (off).

METROPOLITAN STAKES.—20 to 1 agst. Pique (off).

CHESTER CUP.—20 to 1 agst. Zodiac, 22 to 1 agst. Vest colt, 25 to 1 agst. Hadji Stavros, 33 to 1 agst. Chery Annie, 33 to 1 agst. Victrix, 40 to 1 agst. Brown Dutchess. (All taken, except Zodiac.)

LIVERPOOL STEEPLE-CHASE.—8 to 1 agst. The Dane (off); 8 to 1 agst. Huntsman (off); 14 to 1 agst. Thomastown (off); 14 to 1 agst. Jealousy (off); 25 to 1 agst. Northern Light (off).

NORTHAMPTONSHIRE STAKES.—100 to 7 agst. Dusk, 20 to 1 agst. Bally Edmond, 20 to 1 agst. Schism, 25 to 1 agst. Plumper (all taken).

TWO THOUSAND GUINEAS.—3 to 1 agst. Old Calabar (take 100 to 50); 17 to 1 agst. The Marquis (off); 11 to 1 agst. Wingrave (taken freely); 15 to 1 agst. Caterer (off).

THE DERBY.—8 to 1 agst. Old Calabar (off); 8 to 1 agst. Buckstone (off); 18 to 1 agst. Ensign (off); 20 to 1 agst. The Marquis (off); 25 to 1 agst. Wingrave (off); 25 to 1 agst. Malek (off); 28 to 1 agst. Caterer (off); 33 to 1 agst. Zealand (off); 32 to 1 agst. Hubert (off); 50 to 1 agst. Argonaut.

RACING FIXTURES FOR MARCH.

Nottingham Spring	4	Doncaster	13	Shrewsbury Spring	27
Derby Spring	6	Coventry	17	Edinburgh Spring	29
Liverpool Spring	11	Warwick Spring	19		

STEEPLE CHASING FOR MARCH.

Tenby	4	Bangor	14	Birmingham	25
Derby	6	Coventry	17	Ipsley of White	27
Herts Hunt	6	Wharfedale, Otley	19	Shrewsbury	28
Henley-in-Arden	10	Warwick	20	Wetherby	28
Moreton-in-Marsh	13	Grand Military	21	Rugby	31

RUNNING MATCH BETWEEN DEERFOOT AND BRIGHTON.

The sporting public of the metropolis flocked on Monday afternoon to Mr. Robert's enclosed pedestrian ground, Thistle-grove-lane, West Brompton, to witness the second appearance of Deerfoot this season in a ten-mile encounter with John Brighton, of Norwich, the four and ten mile champion, who ran within three yards of Deerfoot in a ten-mile race, on the 2nd of December last, at Leeds, the time being 53 min. 10 sec. The stake was £50, and to accomplish the task allotted to them they had to make the circuit of the course forty times. The race was appointed to commence at four o'clock, and shortly after that time the men appeared on the ground; and the betting took a wide range at 6 to 4 and 2 to 1 on Deerfoot. At the word "off" they started away at a good pace, Brighton cutting out the work. The first three miles were run in 15 min. 22 sec., during which time the men continued passing and repassing each other in a most determined manner. At the finish of the fourth mile Brighton was leading by about ten yards, the time being 20 min. 37 sec. In going round the next time Deerfoot rushed to the front, and maintained the lead for two laps, but Brighton again passed him, and on finishing the fifth mile Deerfoot again led by two yards. This mile occupied 5 min. 25 sec. The sixth mile was done in 5 min. 20 sec.; the seventh, in 5 min. 25 sec.; the eighth, in 5 min. 27 sec.; and the ninth, in 5 min. 33 sec., at the finish of which Brighton led by barely a yard. At nine miles and a-half they were nearly level, and the excitement amongst those present was immense. In the middle of the thirty-ninth lap Deerfoot put on a tremendous spurt, and at the finish of it was leading by six yards. Deerfoot, when within 120 yards of home, was leading by twelve yards, when Brighton put on the steam; but it was too late, and Deerfoot went in the winner by three yards. Time, 53 min. 7 sec.

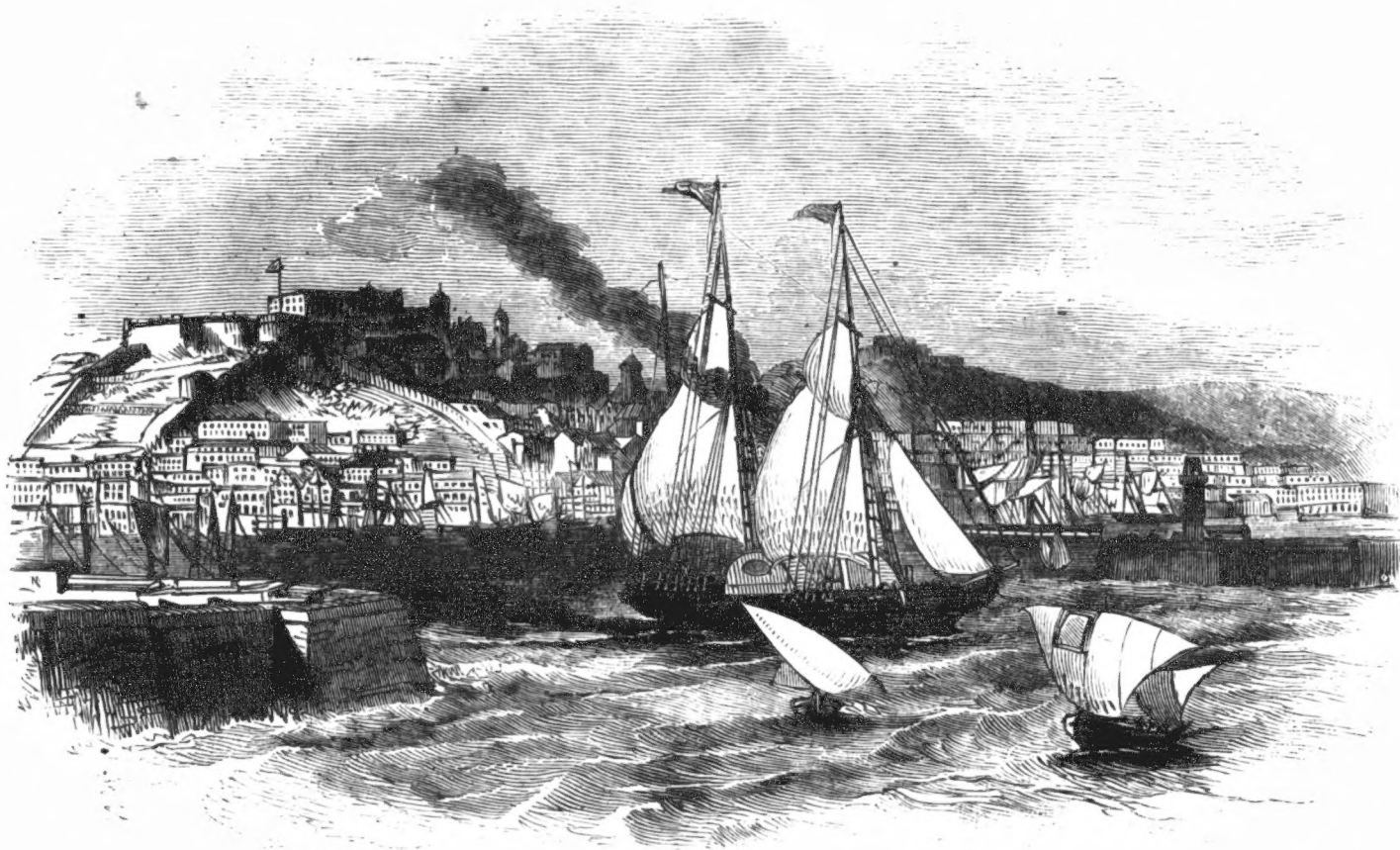
HACKNEY-WICK.

RACE BETWEEN EDWIN MILLS, OF BETHNAL-GREEN, AND THOMAS CUMMINGS, FOR £100.—Some three or four years back Cummings won one or two rather important matches, against good men, on the Wandsworth Ground, and a very high opinion was entertained of his pedestrian capabilities. Hence he was matched against the Champion runner, Mills, giving him half a minute start. Before starting, Mills produced a roll of notes, and offered to lay 20 to 10 or 40 to 20; but there was no response, so that he had to hand the notes back to Price without effecting an investment. That Mills had the command of pace was from the first fully demonstrated, for notwithstanding Cummings put himself to work with a will, it was apparent Mills would have small difficulty in running him down. Mills so decreased the gap between them that when the first mile had been accomplished, which was run by Mills in 4 minutes 46 seconds, he had gained fully 70 yards. Throughout the second mile Mills continued to gain on his man, and on the termination of this portion of the distance, which was run by Mills in 10 minutes 9 seconds, his opponent did not lead him at most by more than 50 yards. As they went up the back of the course in the 21st lap (the finish of the third mile), Mills passed his man. Although immediately afterwards, as they went round the embankment, Cummings again came to the front. The three miles were done by Mills in 15 minutes 20 seconds. As they entered on the 22nd lap (the fourth and last mile having now been commenced), Mills was about a yard in the rear, but as they went along up the back of the course, the Bethnal-green clipper for the second time passed his man, and soon placed a formidable gap between them. The interest of the race was now over, for Cummings rapidly fell off, and was so completely outpaced that in coming down the straight in the 27th lap (the last but one) he resigned, being at the moment he did so fully 150 yards behind Mills, who, in running the last round, put on a spurt, and completed the four miles in 20 minutes 18 seconds.

HONDURAS CLAIMS.—The *Gazette* of Friday contains a notice to the effect that the commissioners of Nicaragua and Great Britain, appointed to decide on all disputed claims between the subjects of the two Governments in Honduras, had appointed Mr. A. G. Adlersberg as umpire, and require that all claims must be sent in before the 1st of March next.

A SISTER'S VALUE.—Have you a sister? Then love and cherish her with all that pure and holy friendship which renders a brother so worthy and noble. He who has never known a sister's kind ministrations, nor felt his heart warming beneath her endearing smile and love-beaming eye, has been unfortunate indeed. It is not to be wondered at if the fountain of pure feeling flow in his bosom but sluggishly, or if the gentle motions of his nature be lost in the sterner attributes of mankind.

THE CATHEDRAL OF TRIESTE in the old town, is supposed to occupy the site of a temple of Juno. The interior is ornamented with mosaics, and many known inscriptions and carvings are built up in the works. It contains also the monument of Winkelmüller, the celebrated antiquary, who was assassinated here in 1768. The handsomest residence in this quarter is the house formerly belonging to a Greek merchant, named Carliotti, who is said to have begun business in Trieste, almost as a pedlar, and died worth a million sterling.



H.M.S. OSBORNE LEAVING TRIESTE WITH H.R.H. THE PRINCE OF WALES.

THE PRINCE OF WALES' VISIT TO THE EAST.

TRIESTE.

In continuing our illustrations of the Prince of Wales' visit to the East, we this week select two of the most important ports on his route, being also the principal ports on the overland route to and from India; namely, Trieste and Alexandria. As no demonstrations have as yet marked the progress of the Prince, we shall still confine ourselves to a description of the various objects of note which came before him on his journey.

Trieste, the principal seaport in the Austrian empire, is divided into two districts, called the old and the new town. The old town stands at the foot and on the declivity of a steep hill, crowned by

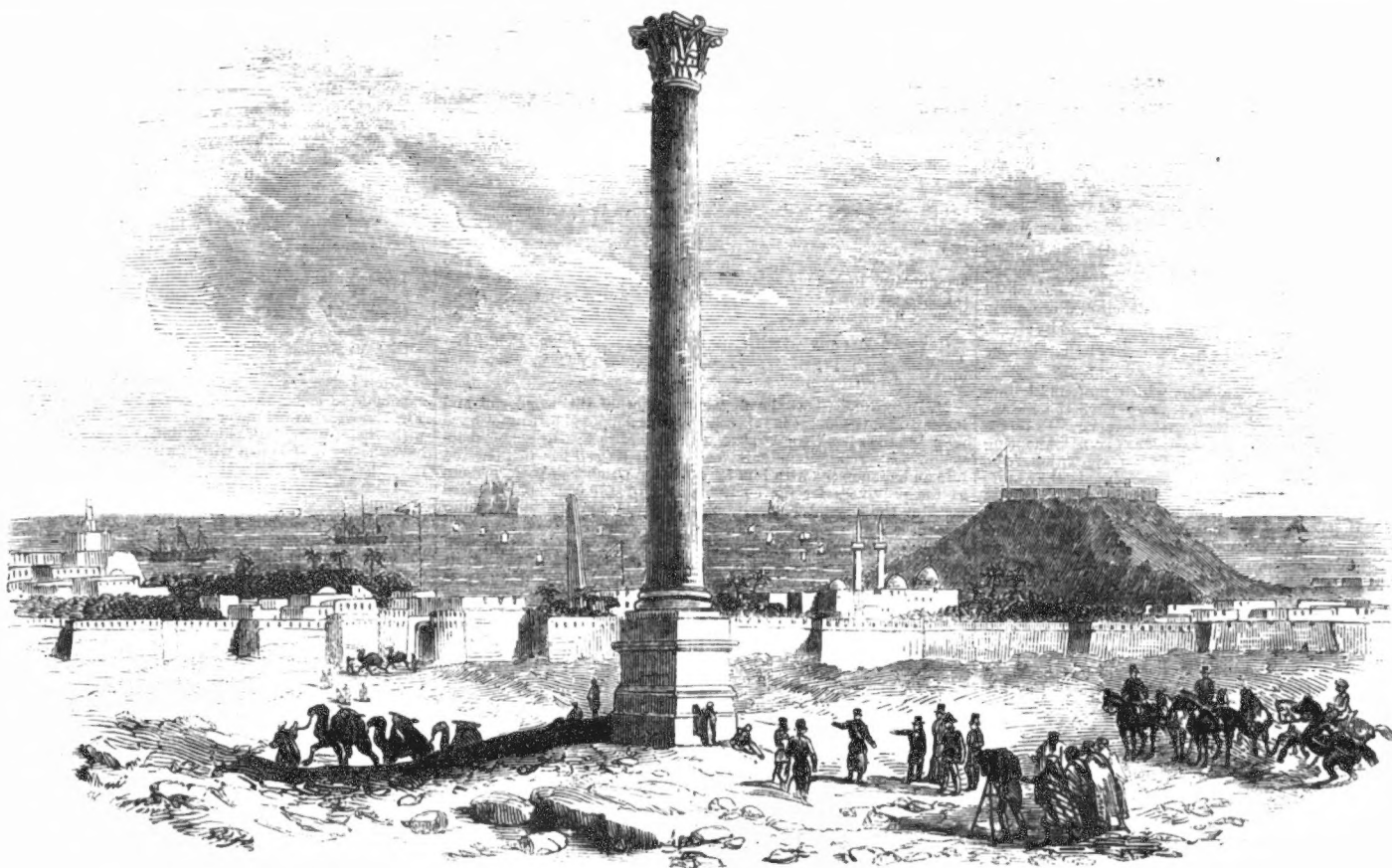
the citadel, as shown in our engraving, with the flag flying. The houses are gloomy, the streets narrow, winding, and in some cases very steep, and the remains of ancient fortifications are still traceable round this quarter. The new town is built on a level, to the north-west of the old town, and consists of handsome streets crossing each other at right angles, and lined with neat buildings. The site of this new town was partly taken from the sea, and is intersected by the canal cut by Maria Theresa, by means of which vessels drawing nine or ten feet of water may load and unload at the doors of the warehouses. Between the old and new town runs the Corso, the entrance to which, however, is hidden in our engraving by the steam-ship Osborne in the foreground. This Corso is the principal thoroughfare of both towns, broad, but winding, furnished

with good shops and coffee-houses, and opening successively into broad and handsome squares.

The harbour, as in seen in our engraving, is of limited size, but is convenient and easy of access. It is formed by the Theresian Mole, founded on a ledge of sunken rock, and projecting into the sea from the south extremity of the old town. At its termination is formed an irregular platform on which is erected a fortress and lighthouse, with an intermittent light. Our engraving represents the Osborne sailing out between the two projections, at the mouth of the harbour, which, however easy of access, is open to heavy gales from the north-west; but the anchorage is good, and, with proper precautions, accidents rarely occur. The port, with the Mole, forms a crescent a mile and a half in length, being a con-



THE PRINCESS ALICE LANDING AT SOUTHAMPTON. (See page 325.)



THE PRINCE OF WALES AT POMPEY'S PILLAR, ALEXANDRIA.

tinual quay, faced with hewn stones, and with stairs and jetties for the convenience of embarkation. On the north side of the rock is a dock or harbour exclusively devoted to quarantine.

ALEXANDRIA.

This celebrated city and seaport of Egypt takes its name from Alexander the Great, by whom it was founded, or raised from obscurity, 332 years B.C. The Ptolemies, to whom Egypt fell on the demise of Alexander, made Alexandria the metropolis of the empire, and under their enlightened government became one of the greatest and flourishing cities of antiquity, occupying a circumference of fifteen miles, with a population of 300,000. In

A.D. 640, after fourteen months' siege, it was captured by Amrou, general of the Caliph Omar. From this period it began to decay, and little beyond the ruins of the city is left, with the exception of the cisterns, which supply the new city with water at one period of the year. Our present engraving is taken from the hills between the old and new city, where stands the celebrated Pompey's Pillar, as shown above. This magnificent column, which was visited by the Prince, was erected, it seems, in the reign of Diocletian; its shaft consists of a single block of granite, sixty-eight feet in height. Formerly, beyond the pillar towards the city stood two obelisks, commonly called Cleopatra's Needles, which were said to have formed the entrance of the palace of the Cæsars. One of them only, as seen above, is now erect. To Mehemet Ali, the late ruler

of Egypt, is indebted the beautifying and fortifying of the present city, also for restoring the ancient canal from the port of Alexandria to the Nile. There is a good anchorage for ships all along the shore, and opposite the town the water is from twenty-two to forty feet deep. Alexandria is built partly on a peninsula, consisting of the island of Pharos, so famous in antiquity for the lighthouse or pharos from which it derives its name, and partly on the isthmus by which that island is now connected with the mainland. The principal buildings, such as the palace of the Pasha, the hospital, arsenal, &c., are built on the peninsula, and the town principally on the isthmus. On the former, also, is erected the *Schuma*, or range of warehouses for the reception of the surplus produce and merchandise of Egypt.



SCENE FROM THE NEW PLAY, "THE ANGEL OF MIDNIGHT" AT THE PRINCESS THEATRE.

PUBLIC AMUSEMENTS.

"THE ANGEL OF MIDNIGHT" AT THE PRINCESS'S THEATRE.

It would seem that to gratify the public taste, and at the same time fill our hitherto empty theatres, nothing for a long period has proved so successful in this respect as the new school of "sensation" dramas. The "Corsican Brothers" may, perhaps, have inaugurated this taste, revived again more particularly by the "Colleen Bawn," and the still attractive "Peep o' Day Boys." Not alone, however, on the plot of the pieces do our managers depend, but principally upon the magnificent scenery and scenic effects which they can produce. Great as these have been in the before-mentioned dramas, and thought almost unsurpassable, yet the "Angel of Midnight" falls nothing short in these respects. Indeed, in several scenes, the scenery, dresses, and scenic effects, are more magnificent, and considerably more thrilling than any of its rivals. As an accompaniment to our illustration, we here give a short outline of the plot.

Albert Werner is a young doctor, who, with a profound knowledge of his profession, is still penniless. To relieve the melancholy occasioned by his mother's sufferings, he is persuaded by his companion Karl de Stromberg, to visit the gardens of a neighbouring tavern, where, after a revel, he is visited by an apparition, who tells him that she is the *Angel of Death*. She upbraids the young doctor for having so frequently deprived her of her intended victims; and after placing before him a picture of his own destitution, and his mother's wants, seduces him by the promise of wealth and fame to enter into a compact, that whenever for the future he shall see at midnight her figure, or observe where her hand touches or her lips press, he will stand aloof and permit death to take its course. Scarcely has this compact been sealed than Albert sees and loves Margaret, the daughter of the Count de Stromberg, the sister of his college friend. Margaret reciprocates his passion; but she has been betrothed to a Colonel Lambeck, whom she loathes, who professes no regard for her, but who is resolved to have her for the sake of her fortune. Albert now becomes famous and wealthy. The Count de Stromberg is indebted to him for his life. Colonel Lambeck has mysteriously disappeared. Albert presses his suit for Margaret's hand, and her father consents to make the young doctor happy by giving him his daughter. Lambeck, however, returns, and insolently demands the fulfilment of the original engagement. This is resisted; but Lambeck persists, and threatens to disclose the secret which has enabled him to exert so baneful a sway over the actions of the count. Driven to desperation by the agonies of his daughter, De Stromberg defies the colonel, and instantly finds himself denounced as an assassin—Lambeck's story being that many years previously, when he and the count and some others were together at a gaming-house, De Stromberg, maddened by ill-fortune, had drawn his sword upon one of the party and stabbed him to the heart. De Stromberg had no distinct recollection of the affair, but as he was found with the bloody sword in his hand, he was unable to deny that Lambeck's version of the story was the true one, and thence the power which that villain had ever after held over him. When Lambeck now for the first time discloses the tale, he is at once met by Albert with a direct denial of its truth. Albert, some days previously has attended a dying man, who had confessed that he had been the assassin at the gaming-table, and that he, in conjunction with Lambeck, having drugged the count, had placed that bloody sword in his hand whilst he lay in a state of unconsciousness. The tables are now turned upon the villainous colonel, who, nevertheless, maintains his haughtiness, and challenges Albert and Margaret's brother, Karl, to a duel, which is the scene of our illustration. This takes place in a neighbouring wood, where the *Angel of Death* again makes her appearance, in the form of an old woman, and very satisfactorily selects the colonel for her victim. Lambeck falls by the hand of Albert, and dies at the touch of the *Angel*. All obstacles being now removed, Albert has nothing to do but to lead his bride to the altar; but the *Angel of Death* once more presents herself to take the life of Margaret. Albert defies the phantom, and, wild with horror, renounces his impious compact. In his despair he throws himself upon his knees, and appeals to heaven for succour and forgiveness. The *Angel of Death* at once admits that this appeal has a force superior to any spell that she can exercise, and declaring the compact between Albert and herself to be broken and at an end, vanishes into air, and leaves the lovers to enjoy their happiness.

LYCEUM.

THREATENING THE LIFE OF MISS LYDIA THOMPSON.—Considerable alarm was created at the Lyceum on Saturday evening, Miss Lydia Thompson, the favourite actress here having been taken in a strong fit of hysterics the moment she appeared in the opening scene of "Little Red Riding Hood." The curtain fell, and after a short but anxious delay it was announced that a threatening letter "from some scoundrel or madman," had that day been sent to the lady, threatening to shoot her that night, which had naturally caused her considerable fright. In a short time she was sufficiently recovered to sustain her part, but was evidently suffering from much anxiety.

DRURY LANE.

The announcement that Mr. Charles Kean would appear in his popular part of *Hamlet* attracted a crowded and brilliant audience to Drury Lane, on Monday evening. The death of the vocalist so long known to the public as Miss Maria Tree had prevented Mr. and Mrs. Kean from appearing during the past week, and the remarkable cordiality of the exclamations which greeted the lady as she entered, betokened how much the audience sympathised with her sorrow in the loss of her sister. Mr. Charles Kean was welcomed with even greater enthusiasm.

COVENT GARDEN.

THE "Lily of Killarney" is still doing well, and attracts good audiences, and will probably last for some time. It is agreeable to witness the marked improvement in Mr. Haigh's singing and acting. Mr. W. Harrison displays considerable humour in the part of *Myles*, and testifies that *genre* characters of this description are evidently his forte. Miss Louisa Pyne's singing is of the same unrivalled excellence. In the duet, "The Moon has raised her Lamp above," Mr. Stanley's fine liquid tones of his rich baritone are heard to the greatest possible advantage.

OLYMPIC.

On Monday night, after the performance of the drama "Time Tries all" (in which Miss Amy Sedgwick resumed the part of *Laura Leeson* very charmingly), an original dramatic sketch, in one act, was presented for the first time, written by Mr. Charles Smith Cheltenham, entitled "A Fairy Father." The piece is very short, and on Mr. Robson being called before the curtain he announced that this dramatic sketch would be repeated every evening amidst loud plaudits.

STRAND.

A clever little piece, entitled "Orange Blossoms," has been pro-

duced here with success. The characters are well sustained by Messrs. J. Clarke and Ray, and Misses Carson, Bufton, and Fanny Josephs.

ASTLEY'S.

On Monday night two interesting actors made their first appearance on any stage—namely, two performing elephants. They appear as the child actors in an elaborate and thrilling drama, the "Rajah of Nagpore," and conduct themselves with a sagacity that is really wonderful.

ON Saturday evening the Victoria Rifles gave their annual amateur dramatic performance, under the patronage of their colonel, the Duke of Wellington. The pieces chosen for representation were "Delicate Ground," "The Life Task," a new and original drama, in two acts, by Mr. Richard Lee, a member of the corps, "Good for Nothing," and that most successful and oft-repeated of modern farces, "Box and Cox."

CRYSTAL PALACE.—ONE SHILLING DAY.—Monday, Feb. 24.—Admissions on payment, 646; ditto by season tickets, 464; total visitors, 1,110.

M. BLONDIN.—Since the first appearance of this wonderful and incomparable gymnast in this country it is supposed he cannot have realised much less than £30,000. As the desire to witness his marvellous feats remains undiminished, Mr. J. Russell has just entered into an engagement with him for a limited number of performances in the provinces for the enormous sum of £10,000. His engagement at the Crystal Palace is also renewed for the approaching season.

ROYAL GENERAL THEATRICAL FUND.—Mr. Alfred Wigan will occupy the chair at the next Anniversary Festival of this excellent institution, which is fixed to take place on Monday, the 14th of April.

MISS WYNDHAM.—This well-known actress, who, it will be recollected, figured so notably some time since in a case in the Divorce Court, was on Saturday last married at Kensington Church to Captain Henry Baring, son of Henry Baring, Esq., M.P. for Marlborough.

MR. AND MRS. GERMAN REED'S ENTERTAINMENT, ROYAL GALLERY OF ILLUSTRATION.—An entirely original "first part," from the practised pen of one of our most successful dramatists, will be given to the public in a few weeks. Report speaks highly of it, and we understand that effects will be introduced hitherto unattempted at this agreeable place of amusement, which continues to attract very large audiences.

CHRISTY'S MINSTRELS.—This clever troupe is still performing with success at the Polygraphic Hall; their entertainment is as spirited and amusing as ever.

EGYPTIAN HALL.—Miss Grace Egerton is still attracting good audiences here. She is an apt actress, a sweet singer, a brilliant dancer, and a most spirited and indefatigable woman. Her husband, Mr. Case, contributes several capital executed solos on the violin and concertina; and a leisure two hours could not be better employed than in the company of this amusing couple.

A SCENE IN THE FRENCH SENATE.

SPEECH OF PRINCE NAPOLEON.

THE Speech of Prince Napoleon in the French Senate, a full report of which we give, has created a great sensation, and gave rise to a lively scene. The public attention is riveted in an unusual manner on the progress of the debate, many incidents of which, it must be confessed, are as novel as startling in such an assemblage. So great is the sensation they have created that it seems as if the country had awakened to life after a long lethargy.

Prince Napoleon said he could not be silent after the speech of the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein. In this place (said the Prince) we all speak out before France and Europe. I consider the speech of the hon. marquis as more than a discourse—it is the programme of the counter-revolution. Since, then, the revolution is attacked, it is my part to declare that I am its sincere defender. The empire is founded on the principles of the revolution, correctly understood. Noticing the animadversions of the marquis upon the democratic press, the Prince quoted as a set-off a very violent article from the *Journal de Verone*, in which a war with the "de facto Government" of France was contemplated, and Austria put forward as the Power which was to suppress the revolution everywhere. While making these references the Prince was interrupted by the Count de Bourqueney, who observed that the Austrian Government did not exercise a preventive measure. He replied that the *Journal de Verone* was written by a mercenary Italian, who was lodged in a casemate, with a sentry over him to protect him from the vengeance of his countrymen. He added that the article was published while the Emperor Francis Joseph was at Verona. A sure instinct, said the Prince, impels you to attack M. de Persigny. You know him as the ardent and faithful defender of liberal and popular Napoleonism. The Prince then referred to the banquet given by the democratic press to M. Ratazzi, and explained the arrangement of the toasts, and quoted from the speech of that statesman words in honour of the Emperor. The bust of the Emperor, he added, was in the room. But, said the speaker, do you know where they break the busts of the Emperor, and tread them under foot? It is in the army of the so-called soldiers of the Pope, commanded by M. de Melode. M. de la Rochejacquelein must needs be well informed by his friend, General Goyon, on these matters. He knows what took place when nothing but the priest's *soutane* restrained a French general and an aide-de-camp of the Emperor from avenging an insult offered to his sovereign. It is at Rome, and not in the French democratic press, that you must look for the most bitter hatred of all that bears the name of Napoleon. The hon. marquis has spoken of the principle of hereditary right. True, the Government of France is hereditary, but it is so that it may apply the great principles of the revolution. It is not hereditary according to the principle of Divine right which you honour. Here the Prince quoted the answer of Napoleon in 1804 to the Senate which brought him the *senatus-consulte* declaring his dynasty hereditary:—"I hope France will never be sorry for having surrounded my family with honours. In any case my spirit will be with my descendants no longer than they continue to deserve the love and confidence of this great nation." This is how the Emperor understood the hereditary succession. And what happened subsequently? When, after immense disasters, a ray of light seemed to break on France, and the Emperor returned from the Isle of Elba, to overthrow the Government of the Restoration, we know in what eloquent words he threw himself upon the nation, and identified itself with its interests, its honour, its glory. And what cries did he hear as he advanced from the Mediterranean to Paris, carried on the arms of the people and of the army? "Down with the nobles! Down with the emigrants! Down with the traitors!" (The latter word, "traitres" was generally mistaken for "pretres.") Immense confusion followed these words, and several senators called out, "We have had enough of the revolution!"

The Marquis de la Rochejacquelein: Bravo, bravo! We are now in full sail. This frankness will be useful.

Prince Napoleon: Yes, I defend the revolution; I glory in it. We are Revolutionists—upright Revolutionists.

A Senator: No upright Revolutionist will cry "Down with society!"

Another Senator: It is not revolutionism, it is demagoguery.

The Marquis de la Rochejacquelein: It is instinctive; it will out.

Count Segur d'Aguesseau: Call him to order, M. le President.

The President: Monsieur, you have called some sad scenes to mind, and I do not think your history is quite sound.

Numerous Voices: Order, order.

Prince Napoleon: I do not accept this call to order. In the Senate of France I am entitled to say that the return from Elba was not a sad remembrance, but a glory to our country.

The President: The return was glorious; the sad part of it was the manifestations with which, as you allege, it was accompanied.

The Duke de la Force: It is not true that the people and army, in bringing Napoleon back, clamoured against all that makes the glory of modern society. He came back by desire of the whole nation—nobility, people, and clergy.

Baron de Lacrosse: Let an eye-witness just state the fact.

Prince Napoleon: I have stated a fact.

Several voices: It is untrue; it is an insult to all the world.

Count de la Marre: I was there; nothing of the kind was said; the people shouted, "Vive l'Empereur."

General Lawestine: I heard what people said at that time, and I protest—

Baron Lacrosse: I demand leave to bear my testimony. I was appointed to escort the Emperor on his triumphant march to Paris. The Emperor would never have allowed anybody to surround him with these anarchical, odious, and anti-social cries. We cannot have the cry of "Down with the nobles—down with the priests," raised here to-day under the pretence of an historical citation.

Prince Napoleon: Do you pretend to deprive me of the right to continue my speech? I neither approve nor disapprove; I cite the testimony of many historians. In my opinion the empire signifies the destruction of the treaties of 1815, within the limits of the force and the interest of France—it is the maintenance of the grand unity of Italy, in future our indispensable ally. At home, it is that order which has no more ardent defender than myself, combined with wise and serious liberties, foremost among them the liberty of the press; it is popular instruction diffused without limits, but not given by religious congregations; it is the well-being of the masses; it is the destruction of the bigotry of the middle ages which some would impose on us.

Cardinal Donnet: Pray do not use such expressions. Who thinks of imposing bigotry on you?

Prince Napoleon, resuming, read an extract from the works of Victor Cousin, in which that writer said that France was not fickle or difficult to govern, but fixed in its desires and very easy to govern, and that it wished merely the regular and peaceable development of the principles of the revolution. The Prince said that those also were his opinions. Referring, then, to the speech of the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein, the Prince said the policy of the marquis had for one of its consequences an alliance with Austria and the destruction of Italian unity, the reconstitution of the temporal power of the Pope, and the restoration of the deposed princes. At home he would proscribe the whole democratic and liberal press, from the *Siecle* to the *Debats*. This is the spectacle of society which the hon. marquis would prepare for us at home and abroad. We know his system; it is not new. It is *la terreur blanche*, supported by foreign bayonets. We will never endure it. When you had made a clean sweep of what you call revolutionary principles, and the present Government had no rational ground to stand on, the Duke of Bordeaux would be called by the force of things to the throne of the Emperor. For my part, I say boldly that I have no fear for a Government which is rooted in the hearts of the people; and while it remains true to the principle of nationalities abroad, and to the liberal and popular sentiment at home, it may defy all, even the agitation of the clergy. I tell the hon. marquis that our principles are different. Neither of us is ashamed of his origin. Our antecedents, our families are different. Whereas his honourable ancestors fell on the battle-fields of civil war under French arms, our fathers fell at Waterloo under English bullets. (Immense interruption.)

Count de Segur d'Aguesseau: M. President, we shall be drawing the sword presently, if you don't take care.

Prince Napoleon: I fear I have infused more animation than I desired into this debate. I may have expressed my conviction with too much energy. Permit me to appeal to your moderation.

Count de Segur d'Aguesseau: Our former moderation was *exploite*, and we can't be taken in a second time.

Prince Napoleon said he would read a short passage from Thiers, which exactly summed up his opinions:—"I belong to the party of the revolution, as well in France as in Europe. I desire that the Government of France may remain in the hands of moderate men. I will do all that I can that it may continue there; but although the Government should pass into the hands of men less moderate than myself—ardent men, radicals—I would not abandon my course on that account; I should still be of the party of the revolution." (This discourse was succeeded by long agitation, and the suspension of the sitting.)

When the Senate resumed, the president said it was the turn of the Marquis de la Rochejacquelein to speak; but it was remarked that the Prince Napoleon had not returned. The marquis commenced by saying that a great event had taken place; but the expression was objected to. He complained that when they had come there loyally and faithfully upon the invitation of the Emperor they should be accused of setting forth a programme of counter-revolution; that any one should say to them, "I am the revolution—you are the counter-revolution." The hon. marquis continued his speech amidst the interruption of both friends and opponents, and great confusion ensued. The Duke de la Force exclaimed, "We are all attacked; we, and our fathers." The Senate loudly called for a termination of the debate.

M. Billault (Minister without portfolio) said it was not proper under the circumstances that the Government should remain silent, and permit its character for moderation and foresight, and the respect which it always paid to whatever was worthy in the past, to be endangered. It was true the empire was born of the revolution, but its duty was to direct and moderate it. Difficulties, he said, had been raised, and much disquietude had been produced. The Emperor knew, however, that one of the most powerful of the forces of society was religion, which he seconded, and neither violence, nor injustice, nor alarms would make him forget that it is one of the great social bases on which civilisation reposes. The Emperor would never deny the revolution, but it was the revolution conciliatory and honest, at once prudent and progressive, which he sought to maintain. M. Billault developed this principle at some length, and at the close of his speech the Senate rose.

ANOTHER MYSTERIOUS DEATH IN THE SERPENTINE.—On Monday evening Mr. Bedford held an inquest at St. George's workhouse, Mount-street, Grosvenor-square, on the body of a young female, unknown, found in the Serpentine on Friday, the 21st ult. John Halliday, of 7, Archer-street, Bayswater, said he was passing by the south side of the Serpentine in Kensington-gardens on Friday last. He saw something in the water. A policeman's attention was called to it. He swam out and brought it ashore, and found it was the body of a young woman. She was quite dead. James Stanley Christian, M.D., of 1 Thurlow-place, said he had seen the body. There was nothing externally. She was quite a young woman, of about nineteen or twenty years of age. He had made a post-mortem examination. There was nothing like brain disease, or any kind of disease whatever. The coroner, in summing up, remarked that the evidence would not carry them any further; and the jury returned a verdict of "Found drowned."

THE LAW COURTS.
COURT OF EXCHEQUER.

MARSH V. DUFFELL.—Breach of Promise. *Exchequer.*—This was an action for a breach of promise of marriage, brought by the plaintiff against the defendant. The defendant pleaded about a dozen pleas. The first denied the promise; then that a reasonable time for the performing his promise had not yet elapsed; that the plaintiff was not ready and willing to marry him; then, that she had, after connection had taken place between them, been much to other men, whose names were set forth in the plea; that the plaintiff had seduced him from the promise; lastly, that a written contract under seal existed between them, whereby the defendant was bound to marry the plaintiff at his mother's death, which set aside the other promise, and that his mother was not yet dead, and that the defendant had paid a sum of money to the plaintiff, which she had accepted in satisfaction of her claim upon him. Mr. Huddleston, Q.C., and Mr. Dowdell were counsel for the plaintiff; Mr. Hawkins, Q.C., and Mr. Proudie for the defendant. The learned counsel, in stating the plaintiff's case, characterised the defendant's conduct as the most profligate and heartless that had come before a jury. The plaintiff was the daughter of a farmer residing at Beacon House, Great Totten, Essex. The defendant, who was the son of a clergyman, was also a farmer in the immediate neighbourhood, and farming about 170 acres of land. The plaintiff and defendant became acquainted in 1857, which resulted in courtship and a promise to marry in June, 1858. He was introduced to the plaintiff's parents, and received as her accepted suitor. About this time he wrote her as follows:—

"My dear little Love, my dear little Duck—(laughter)—I hope you are alive and kicking—(roars of laughter)—and looking as well as fresh, and as pretty as you always do. I shall be delighted to hear from you, but much more to see your lovely countenance (laughter). I hope you will not desert your Charlie."

The letter concluded with sending her lots of kisses. In the autumn of 1858, after her introduction to the family, he seduced the plaintiff, and in the May of 1859 he communicated it to Mr. Copeland, the plaintiff's brother-in-law, and promised that he would immediately make her his wife. The day was named for their marriage, and everything was provided, but he did not keep his promise, alleging that he was too nervous (laughter). She was afterwards confined in London of a child, which was now living. The parties appeared to keep on intimate terms, and in December, 1860, he said he could not marry her till after his mother's death, but afterwards wished it to take place immediately, and arrangements were made for the marriage taking place in London, because he did not like to be married in his own neighbourhood. The licence was procured, and he came to London, and saw her the night before the day appointed at her sister's. He left and promised to be early to breakfast the following morning and then be married. The morning came and not the bridegroom, who again excused himself on the ground of nervousness. She afterwards received from the defendant the following letter, which, it is almost needless to say, created roars of laughter:—

"Dec. 21. Green Dragon Hotel, Bishopgate-street Within, London.
"My dearest, dearest Loo—Heav, if you like, 10,000 curses on my head. I had a fearful night, and never closed my eyes. My life is to me truly and really a hell upon earth. I am again in this fearful, nervous, excitable state. I thought I should have cut my throat last night. Do pity me, Loo, and pray for me. I do, indeed, love you and your heavenly babe, though not lawfully bound. I do indeed truly love it. Kiss it for its father's sake. Now do, pray my dear girl, wait till my mother's death. The poor old lady would, in all probability, live very long. You have my word and honour and every safety of my marrying you then. I swear to act by the agreement which you have. I dare not see your dear face, the dear little chick, or your poor old mother. I am like a hunted devil this morning. I imagined my poor old mother last night saying to me next Christmas-day, 'Charles, are you married?' I could not have said, 'No.' If we had been, and then all must have come out. Thank God, I gave you the £8, so that it will cost you nothing. £4 4s. will do for your next Christmas quarter, and with the rest pay your fares, have a fly from Witham, and buy dear chick, and get self a hat. Now, pray dear Loo, do not write blowing me up. I thought I would try (so help me God if it's true) if I had the moral courage, to marry you, in the face of what I have just promised my dear mother, you, and Mrs. Copland, I can't do it, dear Loo. Cheer up my old girl; you have plenty of good sense and nerve. Nothing on earth gives as much pain as now but my mother and the losing of £4000 or £5000. Take care of my carpet-bag and the things in it, great coat, and blue frock, and I will either send for them at Beacon House, or call to them when I return. Now, do not form a wrong opinion of me. One day I will have a girl, I believe has outlived it, but not yet. First I will have my dear old mother, and a thousand for yourself. Believe me one day your future husband, and devoted and attached.—C. J. DUFFELL."

Mr. Baron Martin: Is there not a postscript? (Laughter). Mr. Huddleston: Yes my lord. (Stonewall laughter).

"P.S.—I am afraid it is in the mind, lovey, my dear old mother." (Laughter).

After this it appears that the parties occasionally met, and it was again arranged that they should be married in 1861. Again everything was prepared and ready, but again the defendant excused himself. Some evidence was taken on the plaintiff's side, but the case did not conclude, as an arrangement was made by which a verdict was taken for the plaintiff with £200 damages.

COURT OF COMMON PLEAS.

(Sittings at Nisi Prius, before Mr. Justice Byles and a Common Jury.)

TURNER V. SULLIVAN AND OTHERS.—THE WINDSOR EXTRAORDINARY AFFILIATION CASE.—This was an action for libel. Two of the defendants pleaded guilty, and the third allowed judgment to go by default. Mr. Digby Seymour, Q.C., and Mr. Shaw, were counsel for the plaintiff. Mr. Kemp was counsel for Mr. Sullivan, one of the defendants; Mr. D. Denman, Q.C., and Mr. Taylor for Mr. Tyrrell. Mr. Banks, the other defendant, allowed judgment to go by default. It appeared that the plaintiff was a solicitor carrying on business at 16, Water-lane, City, and the defendants were the proprietors of the "Windsor and Eton Standard." The plaintiff had been charged with improper conduct with a young lady named Elizabeth Geraldine Stokes, who had applied to the magistrates of the petty sessions sitting at the North Star, public-house, at Slough, for an affiliation order, when a gentleman named Voules appeared on her behalf, and stated that on the 14th of August, 1864, she left Windsor in the evening by the South-Western Railway, for their station in the Waterloo-road. At the Windsor station, a gentleman (whom it was alleged was the plaintiff) walked up and down the platform several times, and eventually took a seat in the same carriage in which the young lady, Miss Stokes, was sitting. After they had proceeded a short distance he began to converse with her, which ultimately turned to flattery. Upon arriving at the Waterloo station they got into a cab. Until then, the applicant said, nothing improper had taken place, except a kiss. Whilst in the cab the gentleman passed a handkerchief across the young lady's face, which she alleged contained some drug, such as chloroform, and almost immediately she lost her senses. She recollected nothing more until she found herself in the Strand. She ultimately went to a confectioner's in the Strand, where she complained of faintness and partook of a little brandy-and-water, which the gentleman paid for. He then left stating that he was going to post a letter and would shortly return; but he did not do so, and she then left the shop and proceeded to be seduced by an omnibus. She felt satisfied that some one had seduced her in an improper manner towards her, and in the course of some months she was delivered of a child. The reporter of the case headed his report "extraordinary affiliation case against a London solicitor," and commenced it by saying, "Mr. Voules appeared on the part of Elizabeth Geraldine Stokes," where he broke off, and commencing a new line, went on to say "It was a case of violation under some extraordinary circumstances," which it was alleged, on the part of the plaintiff, was libellous, and was not intended to be read as Mr. Voules's opening. The plaintiff also complained that on one of the occasions on which the case was before the bench these matters were pointed out and corrected, but the defendants did not mention it in a subsequent impression of the paper; that the defendants had omitted to state that the female swore that she had not had a child before; that there was an omission to state that the plaintiff's advocate states that he had abundant evidence to prove an alibi, and that there was also an omission in the report that the magistrates stated that Mr. Turner left the court without a stain upon his character. For the defence the reporter was called, and stated that his reports were accurate although abridged, and that the break in the sentence was intended for the commencement of Mr. Voules's statement, and not intended as any comment of his own. Mr. Justice Byles, in summing up, said two of the defendants, Tyrrell and Sullivan, had pleaded not guilty; and the other defendant, Banks, had allowed judgment to go by default. By the law of the land every court of justice was a public place, where every man, woman, and child had a right to come and hear what was done, and see what passed; and further, they had a right when they retired to speak truly and fairly of everything they had heard and seen; and more than that newspapers had a full right to publish either a verbatim or an abridged and condensed report of what passed in such courts, and however it might affect the character of an individual, he had no ground for an action for libel, unless it was an unfair

report. The jury returned a verdict for the defendants Tyrrell and Sullivan; and for the plaintiff—Damages, one farthing—against Banks.

COURT OF BANKRUPTCY.

(Before Mr. Commissioner Gaultney.)

RE TINGE.—The bankrupt was a brewer of Thame, in Oxfordshire, who applied for his certificate a short time since. He was then opposed by Mr. Bagley, on behalf of the assignees, and supported by Mr. Lawrence. On the last occasion the case had been adjourned to give the bankrupt an opportunity of arranging with Bagley's agents, if possible, but this had not been done, and the judgment of the court was therefore prayed. After considerable discussion, the commissioner delivered judgment, ordering that the bankrupt's certificate, which would be suspended for six months, without protection, should issue at the expiration of that date as of the second class.

IN RE JOHN SCOTT RUSSELL.—Adjudication of bankruptcy was made in this case a fortnight ago. The trader is Mr. John Scott Russell, the eminent shipbuilder, of Millwall. The adjudication was disputed, and after a protracted inquiry at three or four private sittings, His Honour now gave judgment, confirming the adjudication. Notice was given of appeal.

(Before Mr. Commissioner Holroyd.)

RE MORRISON.—The bankrupt, Peter Morrison, was the notorious manager of the Bank of Deposit, who was outlawed last week. This was an adjournment under the 136th section of the New Act, which gives power to the court to decide questions arising between creditors and assignees under deeds of composition, &c., as to proof of debts and other matters. Mr. Bagley appeared for a creditor, Mrs. Ely, formerly wife of Mr. Dalton, at one time proprietor of the "Atlas" and "Indian Atlas" newspapers, who sought to prove against the estate for £250 annuities, paid by the creditor to a person named Whiting, after the papers had become the property of the bankrupt. The husband of the debtor, Mr. Ely, sought to be allowed to prove, or to have the property in the newspaper reassigned. Mr. Sargood opposed the proof. It was alleged that the annuity was created by a deed in 1846, but the deed was not produced. Mrs. Dalton had transferred the paper to Messrs. Slack and King, and from that moment her personal liability ceased. Morrison had purchased the "Atlas" about three years ago, not from Slack and King, but from a person named Sheridan, and he knew nothing of this annuity. His Honour said that with the materials before him there was no evidence of any debt on the part of the bankrupt.

POLICE COURTS.

BOW-STREET.—**COUNTERFEIT COIN.**—Several prisoners were brought before Mr. Henry, on remand, upon charges of uttering counterfeit coin. Ellen Smith and Ellen Leary were charged with uttering a counterfeit shilling. Mr. Bellamy, who prosecuted for the Mint authorities, said there was nothing against Leary beyond her complicity with Smith. He should therefore not press the charge against her, but only against Smith. John Raimont, barman to Mr. Bond, New Inn, Westminster-road, deposed: On Wednesday, 12th Feb., at about eight o'clock in the evening, the prisoners came to the bar and asked for a half-quartern of rum. I served them, and Smith offered me in payment what appeared to be a shilling. I tried it and told her it was a bad one. She asked me to give it back to her. I declined to do so, and asked her if she had another. She said "No." I broke it with my teeth, gave her one half, with which she went away, and I kept the other half, which I afterwards delivered to a police-officer. Harriet Jane Sewell, barmaid at the Westminster Hotel, Bridge-road, Westminster, deposed: A few minutes after eight on Wednesday evening, 12th Feb., the prisoners came in and asked for a half-quartern of rum, which came to 3d. I served them with the rum, and Smith tendered a counterfeit shilling. I tried it with my teeth and bent it. I told her it was bad. She made no answer. I then sent for a constable, handed over the bad shilling to him, and gave her in custody. I saw her take a shilling from her mouth and drop it on the floor. A gentleman picked it up and handed it to the constable. I believe it was a bad one. Police-constable Pearson, 577 A: I produce a part of a broken shilling received from the witness Raimont. On the evening of the 12th Feb., the prisoners were given into my custody at the Westminster Hotel. At the same time I received from Miss Sewell a bad shilling, which I produce. I also received from a gentleman a bad shilling, which he said he had seen the prisoner Smith drop, and which I also produce. Police-constable Cook, 198 S: I was present at the Central Criminal Court in June, 1863, when the prisoner Smith was convicted in my name of Mary Jones, alias Warton, on charges of uttering counterfeit coin. A previous conviction was then proved against her, and she was sentenced to four years' penal servitude. I was one of the witnesses against her. The prisoner Leary was discharged, and Smith was committed for trial.

John Taylor was charged with uttering a counterfeit florin. Henry Newitt, barman at Mr. Taylor's, the Prince of Wales, Great Queen-street; Early in February, the prisoner came in and asked for a glass of ale. I served him, and he tendered me a bad 2s. piece. I bent it in the detector, and found it very soft. I returned it to him, and he went away. He came back and gave me a good sixpence in payment. Last Thursday he came again. I did not recognise him at first. He asked for a glass of sixpenny ale, with which I served him, and he again tendered a bad florin, which I now produce. I said, "Where did you get this money?" He made no reply, but tendered me a good sixpence. My master came in, and took up the bad florin, and gave the prisoner into my custody. Police-constable F. G. deposed: The prisoner was given into my custody. I received the bad florin in question from Mr. Taylor, and I now produce it. I searched the prisoner at the station, and found on him a bag containing another bad florin and a bad shilling. I found two good shillings and a penny in another pocket, away from the bad money. I also found on him a duplicate relating to some velvet, which I believe to have been stolen. Mr. Corrie said that could be inquired into hereafter. The prisoner said he could not account for having the bad money in his possession. It was quite a mystery to him. He was drunk at the time. He wanted to know what had become of the change of his sspence. Newitt said his master had got it. The prisoner: I don't see that he has any right to it. Mr. Corrie: I don't suppose that he wants to get it. He will give it up to you of course. The prisoner was committed for trial.

THE LATE EXTENSIVE ROBBERY OF SHARES.—John Taplin was brought up on remand, charged with stealing thirty-one scrip shares of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway Company, and eight certificates (representing fifteen shares) of the National Bank of Australasia, and two sets of studs, the property of Mr. Nuttall, of Melbourne, solicitor to these companies, from Morley's Hotel. In addition to the former evidence, Mr. Treddinck, stock and share broker, stated that on the 13th February the prisoner called on him with a proposition for a loan of £250 on the shares of the Melbourne and Hobson's Bay Railway. Witness informed the prisoner that he could not enter into such a transaction except with a customer, but if the prisoner would purchase some shares of him, he would accept the loan. It would also be necessary that he should see the certificates, and take time to make inquiries to satisfy him that they were genuine. The prisoner called again the same afternoon with the certificates. It was agreed that the prisoner should purchase railway shares to the value of £150, and should deposit the ten certificates of shares, which were worth £400, as security for the £150 and for £250 cash, which witness was to advance. The ten certificates of shares which the prisoner was to deposit (and which were the same produced by the officer Wallis) were in the name of "W. J. Nuttall," and the prisoner represented that this was his name. The first step in the transaction was the transfer of the £150 worth of shares from witness to defendant, and in giving the necessary signatures for that purpose the prisoner signed his name "J. W. Nuttall." The reversal of the initials excited witness's suspicion, and he made inquiries, from which he ascertained that the certificates had been stolen. The next time the prisoner called witness detained him and sent for the officer. A pawnbroker attended, and produced a set of studs pledged by the prisoner. They were identified by Mr. Nuttall as one of the two sets stolen from his portmanteau. In reference to the statement made by the prisoner to the officer, that he had won the shares at a billiard-room from a person whom he then supposed to be Mr. Nuttall, Mr. Nuttall stated that he never in his life saw the prisoner until the latter was in custody on this charge, and that he had not, on any occasion, entered a billiard-room since he came to London. The prisoner was committed for trial.

CLERKENWELL.—**BRUTAL ASSAULT.**—DANGEROUS ILLNESS OF THE INJURED MAN.—Thomas Elton, of Chilton, in Kent, a labourer, was charged with violently assaulting John Gould, a farrier, of 59, Harrison-street, Gray's-lun-road, at the New Cattle-market, whereby his life is placed in danger. Both parties were in the Cattle-market on Friday and had some conversation about a horse that the prisoner had purchased. Between four and five, the prisoner who had a thin stick in his hand, according to the evidence of one of the witnesses, deliberately and without provocation, jabbed the stick in the complainant's face. The stick went into the complainant's eye with such force, that it brought the eye on the face, and it was stated by the police, that he had not spoken during the night, and in the morning was insensible. The surgeon, who saw the injured man the next morning, said he was in such a dangerous state that he advised his removal to the hospital at once. The prisoner, in defence, said he was very sorry, but the man annoyed him, and he pushed him with the stick to get him out of the way having no intention to injure him. Mr. D'Eyncourt said the assault was of so serious a nature that he should remand the prisoner for a week.

DOUBLE ATTEMPT AT SUICIDE THROUGH DISTRESS.—A respectably-attired but broken-hearted looking woman, who gave the name of Charlotte Birkinshaw, aged 32, of no occupation, was charged with attempting to commit suicide, by taking a quantity of Laudum at Greenhill's-entrance, St. Sepulchre's. Police-constable Milford 100 G, said: Last night he found the prisoner lying in the passage of a house in Greenhill's-entrance, in a state of semi-insensibility. She told him she had taken a quantity of Laudum, and gave him a bottle which had contained poison. He took her to St. Bartholomew's Hospital, where an emetic was given her, and she then rallied. She had taken poison enough to destroy her life. Police-constable Cook, 198 S, said the prisoner had been in great distress, although she had tried to earn a respectable livelihood. Before her husband left her to cohabit with her sister both she and her children were very clean and tidy. The prisoner said: I have no home, and not sufficient to support myself. I have been in very great distress. My husband, who is a bricklayer, is a very bad man. Mr. Barker remanded the prisoner for a week, and directed that she should see the chaplain at the House of Detention.

MARLBOROUGH-STREET.—**THE CHARGE OF MANSLAUGHTER.**—Henry Clodden, the keeper of an eating-house at Murder-street, Regent's-park, charged with causing the death of Mrs. Mary Simmons, aged 34, of Brown-street, Bryanston-square, by knocking her down with a pony and cart, was again brought up, having been on bail since the first examination. Mr. Edward Lewis, of 61, Marlborough-street, appeared for the accused; and Mr. Garforth, Inspector of the E Division, watched the case on the part of the police. Additional evidence having been heard, Mr. Tyrwhitt said, that it was clear the accused had tried his utmost to avoid the accident, and he should, therefore, discharge him.

MARYLEBONE.—**ALLEGED CHILD MURDER IN PORTLAND TOWN.**—Mary Anne Jarvis, 25, was again placed at the bar, on remand, charged on suspicion of having murdered her illegitimate child, near upon three weeks old. Mr. John Diekie, instructed by Mr. Venn, of New Inn, Strand, appeared on behalf of the prisoner. The evidence in this case, both before the magistrate and the coroner, has been given at length, from which it will be remembered that the prisoner was confined of a female child, and three weeks after its birth it was found dead, bandaged round and round with flannel and calico, and packed in a hamper, in the yard of her mother's house, 55, Henry-street, Portland Town. It was also stated by the prisoner's mother that her daughter was married about four years ago to a labourer, and with him went to reside at Stow-on-the-Wold, in Gloucestershire. There she had a child by her husband, now living, three years old. After she had been with her husband for about a couple of years, she, whilst he was out at labour on a farm, packed up a few things and left with her child, and he had not since heard anything of her or of his child. It will also be remembered that the prisoner's mother stated that her daughter told her that she had received a letter from the country stating that her husband was dead. On Monday Dr. Allen, the medical gentleman in the case, was not in attendance, and in consequence the case was again remanded. After the prisoner was removed to the cells, Inspector Sheehy (S Division) introduced a respectable-looking man to his worship's attention, and said he was the husband of the prisoner. He had seen the report in the newspapers, and had come up purposely to take charge of the child, which was now in its grandmother's keeping. After some conversation between the parties interested, it was agreed that the child, three years of age, should be given up to its father.

SOUTHWARK.—**A ROW IN THE VICTORIA THEATRE.**—James Williams, a young fellow about 19, was brought before Mr. Burcham, charged with creating a disturbance in the pit of the Victoria Theatre, and assaulting the constable, Herrington, 142 L, the officer specially employed to do duty at the theatre, said that on Saturday night, about ten o'clock during the pantomime, he heard a row in the pit, and on proceeding there saw the prisoner in the act of fighting several persons about him. Witness desired him to be quiet, and not interrupt the audience, when he struck witness a violent blow in the face. Witness was then compelled to take him into custody. The prisoner was extremely violent, and he would really have allowed him to go but he struck him outside the theatre. In answer to the charge, the prisoner said he had been drinking with several friends outside the theatre, and when he returned to his seat some parties refused to allow him to pass. While he was endeavouring to get over he was struck, and then he struck in return. He was sorry for striking the officer, Mr. Burcham: But you annoyed the audience. Prisoner: I am sorry for it. Will you look over it this time? Mr. Burcham told him his conduct was disgraceful, and he must pay a fine of 10s., or go to prison for ten days.

HAMMERSMITH.—**COMMITAL FOR MURDER.**—Hannah Cook, a young woman, who has been in the service of a gentleman named Appell, residing at No. 3, Sussex-place, Kensington New Town, as cook for the last three months, was brought up before Mr. Ingham, charged with having caused the death of her illegitimate child, the body of which was found concealed in her box in her bed-room on Saturday, the 1st ult. The principal feature in the case was the conflicting evidence of the medical gentleman who attended the post-mortem examination of the body. Death was attributed to a fracture of the skull, and Mr. Merriman, a surgeon of Kensington-square, who was recalled in by Mrs. Appell, gave an opinion that it was possible that the injuries the child had received might have been caused by the unskillful delivery of the prisoner, Mr. Guazzarini, the medical officer of Kensington Workhouse, was of opinion that the injuries were too extensive to have been caused in that way, and that they were the result of considerable violence. After the prisoner was remanded Inspector Backing had an interview with the magistrate, and it resulted in his worship ordering the body to be examined by a third medical gentleman. Dr. Hicks, physician-accoucheur at Guy's Hospital, was examined. Mr. Ingham: Do you think the injuries may have been inflicted by the prisoner delivering herself? Witness: I think it is in the range of possibility. The depositions having been read over, Mr. Ingham gave the usual caution to the prisoner, but she declined saying anything. Mr. Ingham then committed her for trial for the murder of her infant. The prisoner cried bitterly while in the dock.

WANDSWORTH.—**THE GIPSY FORTUNE-TELLERS AND THE SILLY MAIN-SERVANTS.**—The case of Selina Smith, the gipsy, drew a number of persons to the court to hear the proceedings. The following is a copy of the charge: "Selina Smith, aged 20, no home, no occupation. Obtaining a woman's dress, value 3s., from Mary Ann King, also 1s. from Emma Powe, on the 11th inst., by means of pretending to tell fortunes at the parish of Wimbledon, also attempting to obtain 10s. from Mary Ann King, by means of false pretences, on the 14th ult." On the prisoner being placed in the dock, Mr. Dayman told Mr. King that they had no regular machinery for analyzing the fluid in the bottle, and he therefore proposed that some of it should be given to him, so that he might place it in the hands of a chemical friend for examination, and if he found anything of a deleterious character, or anything that was doubtful, he had no doubt the proper authorities would have it analyzed. Mr. King said he wished to know if there was sufficient evidence to convict the prisoner, without proceeding any further. He was satisfied that the bottle contained only chalk, and, without mentioning names, he was fully convinced that no evil intentions were entertained. Mr. Dayman said that there was only one charge before him, that of fortune-telling, but at the same time they were bound to be on the side of caution, and he should like to have the contents of the bottle analyzed. Inspector Lovelace asked for a remand, as he had received a letter from the Lincolnshire constabulary stating that a person of the prisoner's description was wanted for a similar offence. Mr. Dayman again remanded the prisoner, and directed the police to give Mr. King one-half of the contents of the bottle for analyzing, and to keep the remainder. The prisoner was then locked up.

ROBBERY AT STURGEON'S TABERNACLE.—Last week some thieves effected an entrance into the Metropolitan Tabernacle by getting, it is supposed, through one of the windows on the basement floor of the building. They were evidently on the premises for a considerable time. There are boxes placed near every door for the purpose of the congregation depositing weekly whatever they may feel disposed to give towards the support of Spurgeon's Training College for young men who desire to become ministers. Several of these were broken open, and whatever sum of money was in them of course was stolen. The robbers also broke open the secretary's drawers and abstracted £5 16s. Fortunately, they did not get the booty they might have had, had they known where the property that was in the Tabernacle was kept. It seems evident that they were disturbed in their depredations, as spots of blood, as well as matches and a candle, were left near one of the chapel windows. The thieves lit one of the gas-burners in the secretary's apartment, and left it burning. No clue as to the discovery of the burglars has at present been ascertained.

GARDENING OPERATIONS.

THE HOT-HOUSE.—Young allamandas, clerodendrons, torenias, and other plants of that description; also, the showy impatiens jerdonia should be encouraged by every possible means. The pretty dwarf heliotropium voltaireanum will likewise be found useful for blooming under glass where sweet-scented flowers are in request. Push on camellias with gentle warmth and weak manure water. Proceed as diligently as possible with the repotting of such of the hard-wooded greenhouse plants as require it, so as to afford them every chance to make a vigorous start.

FORCING.—Stop and train cucumber plants as they progress, and do not allow the leaves to crowd one another; water occasionally with weak clear liquid manure. Collect fresh droppings from mushroom beds, and put them together in a dry place to heat, preparatory to their being wanted.

FLOWER GARDEN AND SHRUBBERIES.—Attend carefully to the stock of bedding plants, and get rooted cuttings potted off as soon as they are in a fit state. Calceolarias, if well established, may be planted out next month, should the weather be favourable, in a turf pit on poor sandy soil, protected from cold winds, but they must be prepared for this by previously inuring them to full exposure to sun and air whenever the weather will permit. Tender annuals must now receive attention. Commence sowing this month, and continue to the end of April. As soon as they can be handled, prick off singly into small pots, or place three round the edge of a 4-inch pot, plunging them in a gentle heat till they can be safely trusted in the open borders. To secure fine plants and a profusion of bloom, it is of the greatest importance to sow early.

FRUIT AND KITCHEN GARDEN.—Orchard houses and glass cases should have air daily during sunshine, but close early if there is any appearance of frost. Finish pruning and budding as soon as possible. Prepare stations for cauliflowers and lettuces that have been wintered under glass, selecting a sheltered deep rich piece of ground. Take advantage of dry days to stir the surface of the ground.

OUR VILLAGE HOMES.

As an accompaniment to our gardening operations, we give a beautiful illustration of "Our Village Home." Deeply embosomed in luxuriant foliage is seen a portion of the quaint old farm-house, with the spire of the village church rising a short distance beyond. By the side, in the foreground, stands the gable end of the cottager's home, of less humble pretensions, with the good housewife giving a passing word to the farm-servant and boy. What repose seems to reign in this rural retreat. How often have we gathered blackberries or nuts on similar overhanging wood-banks—aye, on the very spot where the sheep lingers to snatch a dainty leaf from the ripening hedgerows, or torn through the brambles where the dog is lapping from the clear little rill. The more we look on the beauties of these our "village homes," the more do we desire again to be among them; but let us first wait till *Weak March* is out, and then we shall be looking for the buds and blossoms which will soon clothe the trees and hedgerows and our village lanes in all the luxuriance here depicted.

HER MAJESTY AND THE ALBERT MEMORIAL.

In the same envelope which contained the letter conveying her Majesty's sentiments in regard to the form of the proposed Memorial to the late Prince Consort, there was another letter, which the Lord Mayor conceived to have been made separate and supplementary, in order that the committee might exercise their judgment and discretion as to whether or not it might be made public. That letter has since been published, and is as follows:

"Osborne, Feb. 19, 1862.

"My Lord.—The Queen wishes me to add a few words to the answer to your letter, which you will receive with this, expressive in a more special manner of her Majesty's personal wishes.

"She is aware that she could not with any propriety contribute, as a wife, to a monument to her husband; but she is also the sovereign of this great empire, and, as such, she cannot but think she may be allowed to join with the nation in the expression of a nation's gratitude to whom it owes so much.

"Who has a dearer interest than the Queen in the well-being and the happiness of the people? And if it has pleased God to make her reign, so far, happy and prosperous, to whom, under Divine Providence, is this so much owing, as to her beloved husband—in all matters of doubt or difficulty her wise counsel, her unfailing guide and support?

"No one can know, as the Queen knows, how his every thought was devoted to the country—how his only aim was to improve the condition of the people, and to promote their best interests. Indeed, his untiring exertions in furtherance of these objects tended, in all probability, to shorten his precious life.

"Surely, then, it will not be out of place that, following the movement of her people, the Queen should be allowed to consider how she may best take part with them in doing honour to her beloved Prince, so that the proposed monument may be recorded to future ages as reared by the Queen and people of a grateful country to the memory of its benefactor. I have the honour to be your lordship's most obedient and faithful servant,

"C. GREY.

"The Right Hon. the Lord Mayor, &c."

CAPTAIN WILKES.—We learn that Captain Wilkes has been deprived of the command of the *San Jacinto*. Possibly this may be a part of the apology to the British Government. If so, why not say it?—*Courier Journal*.

Literature.

THE BLOOD-HOUND'S REVENGE.

As many doubts have been cast upon the truth of the following story, I shall merely say, by way of preface, that I tell it as I heard it told, and that I believe it.

How I came to hear it was thus:—As my father, my mother, my sister, and I were sitting round the fire one evening after dinner, we were suddenly surprised by hearing four distinct and deliberate raps on the street-door.

"That," said my father, "is Skinny Grimmer."

"Skinny Grimmer! and, pray, who is he?"

"Thirty years ago," said my father, "he was an old friend and school-fellow of mine, famous for his long face and his queer stories."

Suddenly, a tall figure advanced and took a chair by the fireside. My father watched him with a smile, which broke into a laugh, and cried out, "Grimmer, by Jove!"

Scarcely had the words passed from his lips, when Grimmer threw his cloak on the back of his chair, and thus addressed his astonished hearers, "Williams, old boy, how are you? Mrs. Master, and Miss Williams, I presume?"

"With us we brought a dog; it had been sent over from Spain a few months previously as a present to my brother. Rudolph, for that was his name, was a blood-hound—a grand dog, and of immense strength; but his slender legs, his finely-cut head, and, let me add, his sensitive nose, gave him somewhat the appearance of an effeminate giant. Even we did not fully appreciate his enormous power till one day, on coming home, we found the iron chain that bound him snapped, and a large mastiff, that had dared to question his right to a bone, stretched dead at his feet.

"Upon questioning our servant, he said he saw the mastiff jump over the low wall of the yard, and try to take possession of the bone; that Rudolph did little at first, but with a stroke of his paw, just struck the bone from the mastiff as soon as he laid hold of it; that at last the mastiff by a jerk tossed it out of the reach of Rudolph's chain, and was following it, when, with a yell, he sprang to his feet, took a huge leap, snapped his chain, seized the mastiff by the throat, and before he (the servant) could come up, the big brute was dead.

"The farmer to whom the mastiff had belonged called next day. Though greatly grieved at the loss of his dog, he nevertheless refused all offers on our part to make restitution, and declared that his only motive for calling was to make the acquaintance of a dog powerful enough to kill such an animal as his mastiff.

"Rudolph was produced, and behaved so well, and looked so handsome, that the farmer declared he had never seen such a dog; and requested, 'if it wasn't making too bold,' that we should come and lunch with him some day that week, to see his farm, and bring Rudolph with us. Knowing that we could depend on him as long as he was within sight, we heartily accepted the invitation for all three.

"A few days afterwards, we presented ourselves at the farmer's door. Our host received us very kindly, introduced us to his wife, a comfortable-looking body with six small children. The youngest, a pretty-looking girl of about two years old, was so dreadfully frightened at the sight of our big dog, that the mother was obliged to carry her off to bed, weeping piteously.

"We were ushered into a large low room, with a long table spread with substantial fare—cold sucking-pig, roast-beef, and fowls. Shortly after the good wife came back, saying that her pretty darling had gone to sleep. Presently, however, we were startled by hearing screams from a distant part of the house; then they were hushed for a moment, and then they arose again louder than before. 'The child!' cried the mother, and rushed out of the room.

"Where's Rudolph?" said my brother. "Oh, don't worry yourselves," said the farmer, with his mouth full; "the dawg's found its way to the child's room, and she's squealing. That's all."

"And so it proved, for presently Master Rudolph made his appearance, walking, or crawling rather, with his belly close to the ground, and his tail between his legs, closely followed by the mother, who was scolding him sharply, and beating him with a stick. 'I'll teach you to go frightening our poor little Mary,' and again down came the stick. He turned as if to leap at her, his eye glaring with a passion which I could not believe a dog could feel or express. It was a look of unmitigated hate.

I resolved to say nothing about it, determined, however, never again to let the dog escape from my eye.

"I was aroused from my morbid reveries by the voice of our host asking us to come for a stroll over the farm. I immediately jumped up, called Rudolph to follow, and out we went. "When we returned the baby was crying again, and the mother, begging us to excuse her, rushed off to comfort her poor little darling. When the cries ceased, I became aware of a growling noise, low thunder, that seemed to proceed from something behind me. I turned and saw Rudolph shewing his teeth, with his eyes fixed intently on the little window above the pigsty.

"I determined I would not rest till I had seen the dog safely chained up. I went in and threw myself on the sofa.

"I dreamed that I was in the farm-yard that we had lately quitted, and that I saw Rudolph in the distance, carrying off something white, and the ground was covered with snow. Then I heard a shriek, and turning towards the place whence it seemed to proceed, I saw the farmer's wife at the little window, pointed out as that of the baby's room, and which was open, gesticulating wildly. Then I remembered calculating what an easy leap it would be, for a dog like Rudolph, on to the window-sill, and then I heard a voice crying out 'Save it! save it!' and then I was awakened.

"The first thing I said was, 'Is Rudolph safe?' 'I suppose so,' said my brother, leaving the room. Presently he cried, 'Come here!' I ran down-stairs, and saw—an empty kennel.

"There is no time to be lost; we must set off immediately. In two minutes we were on our way to the farm-house.

"It was snowing, and the ground was half changed from black to white. 'Dream coming true,' we both muttered.

"When we had got within a stone-throw of our destination, we saw a large animal bounding away to our right, and I thought I saw something white in its mouth. 'Rudolph!' we both said in a breath.

"We agreed to go to the farm-yard first. All seemed still enough, till, looking up to the window, we saw the farmer's wife, in her night-dress, standing just as I had seen her in my dream, gesticulating wildly. We heard her ejaculate, 'Save it! save it!'

"It had left off snowing. The footsteps of the dog, thanks to the snow that had fallen, were plainly perceptible, and they turned off through a gap in the hedge. We followed.

"At last, to our surprise, we caught sight of Rudolph tearing away before us; then he leaped a low wall and was lost. We hurried to the wall over which the beast had disappeared. It was the wall of our own yard, and leaping over it, we discovered, alas! that we were too, too late; for there, in a corner, lay Rudolph, and by his side the mangled remains of the poor little—sucking-pig!"

• Extracted and condensed from "Chambers's Journal," for February 22nd, 1862.



VILLAGE HOMES



THE DREAM.

THE SHADOW OF WRONG.

A ROMANCE.

BY THE AUTHOR OF "MY GOLDEN SKELETON," "STORM-BEATEN," "A HEART STRUGGLE," ETC.

CHAPTER XII.

BEHIND A MASK.

THE star of Twinkle has disappeared for a time from the hemisphere of Caverford, its satellites have passed into another sign of the county zodiac, and the inhabitants of Caverford are sadly puzzled how to amuse themselves during a wet and windy winter. The sensation created by the daring feats of the beautiful *équestrienne*, Mademoiselle Emilie, who so suddenly disappeared, has at length subsided. It is rumoured that mademoiselle has eloped with a rich officer of cavalry, Captain Vetter Henry Hoarse; and Lieutenant R. Tillery, who is the author of the rumour, does and says not a little to make it widely credited. Indignant matrons no longer put their heads sagely together; they have ceased to enjoy the scandal, which is stale. Things, I say, are very dull. The favoured queens of local society are up yonder, in London, plunged in all the excitements of the season; and Dr. Benjamin Brogden, who finds time hang somewhat heavily on his hands, sits alone in his little study, twiddling his thumbs with all the air of immaculate benevolence, but communing darkly with himself, Behind a Mask.

Blame not the good gentleman if he finds it necessary to wear a mask now and then. The world is a great ball, in which it is necessary to assume disguises; and we wear masks, every one of us. When I meet thee, Romeo, I know thee by thy garb, and thine air of love-sick longing. Yet thou puzzlest me when thou assumest the dress of thy bald friend, Friar Lawrence. Hamlet I should know anywhere; he scorns disguises, and is easily taken in. Some of the masks are transparent, and some are quite impenetrable. Virtue is one; and when it is worn upon the face of a lass, who can accuse her of ill-doings in the dusk? Religion is another; and when it is worn upon the face of a reverend gentleman, who can detect the gorilla? Of the impenetrable order of masks is that of Dr. Brogden. To look through that, one would require the eyes of the lynx. It may conceal either Hyperion or the satyr. It may hide the beauty of Abel or the deformity of Cain. But whatever there be behind it, rest assured that a rough hand will tear it away some fine day, and that the truth will appear in all its native hideousness or loveliness.

What is he thinking about, as he reclined in his easy, soft-cushioned chair? It is hard to tell. A gloom is over his swarthy countenance. Make no mistake; perhaps he is thinking of the depravity of human nature, and the depravity of those on whom it had been his joy to lavish his favours. Now he smiles—a bright smile. Injure not the good man, even in thought, for perhaps he is rejoicing at the new appearance of his wife, whose health has of late improved so wonderfully. *Haut soit qui mal y pense!*

At last, he sprang up, and rang the bell. The domestic appeared.

"Order the groom to get the horse ready directly."

Passing out of the room, he attired himself up-stairs, and soon came down again, booted and spurred. He opened the door of the bedroom, and entered.

Mrs. Brogden was sitting in a great arm-chair, propped up by pillows, before a fire, roaring fire. Her face was pale as ever, but the wild uneasy expression had gone out from the eyes.

"Emily," said the doctor, stooping over, and kissing her, "I must ride over to Captain Harwood's, on business. I shall not be long away."

"Very well, Benjamin."

"Stay! Now that you are stronger, I think it advisable to put you under your former course of medicine. You had better commence now."

A flush was on the pale face that was upturned to his, and the lips were compressed firmly. The doctor hung down his head, probably to conceal his emotion.

"I shall take no more medicine, Benjamin."

"What?"

"I do not think it agrees with me. It fills me full of strange fancies and wild dreams. Do not give me any more of it."

"Humph! This is foolish; but we will talk about the matter when I return. Good-bye, then."

"Good-bye, Benjamin."

A cloud was on the doctor's face as he walked out of the house, jumped on his horse, and rode away. He muttered to himself and bit his lips. That short conversation with his wife seemed to have upset a plan which he had made during his meditations. So he rode on, Behind a Mask.

"Further delay would be folly," he muttered. "The old power seems passing away from her, and the silly thing fears me. No time is to be lost—the prize must be mine."

Not far from the house he met George Linley, who was evidently returning from some business expedition. The doctor reined in his horse, and smiled kindly.

"Well, George?"

"Good afternoon, sir."

"Where have you been?"

"At Captain Harwood's," returned George, colouring slightly.

"I have left the medicines."

"Thank you."

Nothing could be more courteous and kind than the doctor's manner, as he waved adieu and rode on; but when Linley was out of sight, a cloud gathered.

"Can it be that the fellow has a hankering after Miss Joice, yonder? Poor youths are sometimes very bold—I myself was. The fool! she is meet for his betters. If I thought he was trying to win the heart of that poor innocent girl, I'd crush him under my heel, like an adder."

Old Harris answered his summons at the lodge gates.

"Good morning, Harris; I am going up to the house for a short time, and must trouble you to take care of my horse."

"Yes, sir."

The old man was looking querulously and anxiously into the doctor's face. At last, he summoned up courage to ask a question.

"No word of Sarah, doctor?"

"None."

"Ah! she have gone to the bad, she have. There's no hope, now, doctor; and the old woman and I may as well rest certain, as if our girl was dead."

The doctor only shook his head sadly, and passed on. It was late in the afternoon when he entered the house, and his eyes were glistening expectantly. Behind the Mask. Miss Harwood was at home; the captain was without. He was shown into the little sitting-room, where he was soon joined by Joice.

"Good afternoon, doctor," said the young lady, who looked very pale and beautiful.

"Good morning. I called to see your uncle, on business of some moment, and I am sorry he is from home."

There was a long pause. Both were seated. The doctor's eyes were fixed on Joice, and her's were fixed upon the ground.

"Linley has been here," said the doctor, suddenly.

Joice blushed visibly, and quietly answered in the affirmative.

"A fine lad, that, Miss Harwood."

Joice made no answer.

"If he does not become an ornament to his profession, I am much mistaken in my estimate of his mental powers. He makes an invaluable assistant."

The young lady did not feel called upon to join the doctor in sounding the praises of one who was young and handsome.

"Pray, doctor, how is Mrs. Brogden?" she asked, presently, with a hot doubt at her heart as she did so.

"Apparently improved for the better; but, alas! I feel there is something wrong in one of the vital organs of life. Her activity is less of the body than of the mind; it is not a healthy activity. 'Do you know, Miss Harwood, that Emily is the slave of the most foolish fancies, and that one of them is, that I, of all men in the world, love another woman.'"

Joice started and murmured, "Indeed!"

"Yes, indeed! She says, poor thing, that she has seen the woman in her dreams; and she prophesies that, after her own death, the woman will become my wife. Foolish, is it not?"

"Very."

"So I say. But there is no driving the nonsense out of Emily's head. She says I know, as well as she knows, that there is living at this moment, a woman whom I love, who is young and beautiful, and must perforce, if even against her own will, become

my wife after Emily is dead. She says that I have woven a spell around this woman, from which she can never free herself, and that, sooner or later, she must be mine."

"How absurd!" exclaimed Joice; but, looking up, she met the bright searching eyes of Benjamin Brogden, and trembled in spite of herself. Then she blushed hot, as if in shame.

"Well, I must go," said Brogden, rising, and stretching out his hand with a gracious bow. "Good morning."

"Good morning, doctor."

As he walked hastily towards the lodge, he seemed violently angry.

"There is danger. Her thoughts are elsewhere, with that cursed Linley."

So he reached the lodge.

Dr. Brogden took the reins of his horse from Harris, but there was no kind word of consolation on this occasion, and Harris marvelled much. Dr. Brogden rode away, only giving a nod of thanks to the porter; and he rode slowly along the road in the direction of Caverford. There was a shade on Dr. Brogden's face; he was musing, and the shade said moodily. The wind whistled around the eaves of the trees, and murmured along the road and across the first-strawed fields. The wind was sharp and cold, and Dr. Brogden thought an angry wind. It took up the brown crisp leaves that covered the road, and twirled them round about and up and down fantastically. They whirled about the horse's legs and beat them fiercely, as if they wished to drive the horse and rider away. They crawled along the earth, then flew up into the air, and turned somersaults defiantly.

Dr. Brogden passed on, and his eyes gleamed strangely. The thoughts which were revolving in his mind were gloomy, and that bland smile of his was gone. His lips were firmly closed, and his brows contracted; but very calm was Dr. Brogden. The fire burned and seethed within, but Etna was cold and dark without. The mask was turned a very little way aside, and Dr. Brogden peered out from behind.

"My influence," he murmured, "is counteracted by that of some other. But mine must conquer. The weaker must succumb to the stronger. Have I not proved myself strong?"

Dr. Brogden raised his head and looked around, as if he would have Nature answer him.

Lieutenant R. Tillery rode by and saluted the doctor; he returned the salutation, and again muttered to himself—

"Fools, fools, passing on through life unconscious of the giant lurking within each breast. But better so; for those who win the knowledge are the stronger for the ignorance of their fellows. She shall succumb."

The shade gradually passed away from his face. He was just entering the village; and the bland, benignant smile crept from the corners of his mouth up to the roots of his hair, then disappeared, and left the face calm and intellectual.

"Lord save and keep yer honour," cried a little ragged old woman, hobbling close up to the side of the horse; "Lord save and keep your honour; but would ye spare even a copper for a poor old woman?"

Dr. Brogden bent down from his horse and placed something in her hand.

"Och, thin, may the blessings of heaven attend and wait upon yer honour."

The old woman hobbled off, calling down all the angels to watch over the doctor, and the little knot of men who were standing at the door of the Red Lion pointed him out as a paragon of benevolence. The doctor passed on, and the sharp cold wind took up his praise and carried it along the village, and in at the door of each house.

On arriving at his home, Dr. Brogden found a big, clumsy-looking countryman in the study with George Linley; he was a man in years, but hale and fresh, dressed in coarse home-made clothes, cut in no particular fashion. This was Bob Wheatley, one of the oldest farm-servants at Heath House.

"Here is a messenger from my mother," said Linley, on the entrance of the doctor. "She has got some unfortunate girl at the house who is very ill, and you are wanted immediately."

"I am afraid," replied the doctor, "that I must be excused. You had better go yourself, George, and if the case should be really dangerous, I can go to-morrow."

Linley was anxious to attend to the matter; for, as it was to his own house he was to go, it was more of pleasure than a duty.

He left the room to prepare for his journey. Dr. Brogden sat down in his easy-chair before the fire. He warmed his hands—then rubbed them together. Bob sat on one corner of a chair near the door, turning his wide-awake hat round about in his hand.

"And how are the people at the farm?" blandly inquired the doctor.

"They be all well, sir, thank you, sir," answered Bob, attempting to make a bow without rising from his seat.

"Hum, I am glad to hear it."

The doctor held his hands before the fire, and then rubbed them together again.

"The young lady who is ill is a stranger, I understand."

"Yes, sir, thank you, sir."

"What is her name?"

"I dunno that. She came to our place with an old chap that plays on the fiddle wonderful."

The doctor suddenly ceased rubbing his hands.

"Would you know her name if you heard it?"

"No; I never heard them call her by any name."

"Did she go to Heath House from Caverford?"

"I dunno."

"Hum, is she very ill?"

"Yes, she'd been a-bed ever since she came to our place."

Linley entered the room, ready to start.

"I think, George, the doctor, rising from his seat, "that it will be necessary for me to attend to this case myself. Our friend here informs me that it is very urgent."

"As you please, sir," answered Linley, evidently disappointed.

"I will be ready for you in a few minutes, my good man."

"Yes, sir, thank you, sir."

The doctor left the room. In a short time he returned, equipped for the journey. He gave Linley some instructions in reference to several patients, and left the house. Bob had brought the gig with him, and the doctor jumped into the seat and took the reins himself.

"Jump up, my man," said he to Bob, who stood uncertain what to do.

He scrambled into a seat. They were off. The doctor drove quietly away from the village.

The night was dark and the wind high. Strange sobbing and moaning sounds fitted along the night. Only a few stars, peering now and then from behind dense clouds, served to light the way dimly. The gig-lamps were lit, and their reflected light stretched out along the sides of the horse, and away out before his head, like a great white ghost on the ground. The doctor was muffled up to the chin in a large black cloak, and his large dark eyes glared out from behind the lamps into the night with a strange brightness. Bob pulled his wide-awake well over his head, buttoned up his coat, and pulled the collar up about his neck. Then he put his hands into his pockets, butted his head against the wind, and considered himself comfortable.

When they had left Caverford about one mile behind, the doctor whipped the horse into a rapid trot, and on they sped merrily.

About four hours after they had started from the doctor's house they arrived at the gate of the farm. Bob got out of the gig, threw the gate open, and went to the horse's head. The watch-dog barked fiercely, and the dogs without the house immediately joined in a howling chorus. The doctor jumped to the ground, and loosened the fastenings of his cloak, which then hung loosely about him. As Bob led the horse round to the stable, the doctor walked up to the door of the house. He paused for a moment when he had reached the porch. He made a half turn, as if he were going back to the gig for something he had forgotten. The dim light of the stars made the garden shrubs appear like fantastic ghosts, and the thick foliage ivy on the porch seemed to be crowned with little impish faces grinning and laughing at the tall figure of the doctor. The door immediately opened, and Mrs. Linley appeared with a candle in one hand, and with the other endeavouring to keep the wind from blowing out the light. The doctor saluted her.

"Bless me, Doctor Brogden—glad to see you—thought you would never arrive—but come in, come in—this candle will be out in a minute."

The doctor entered the house, and the door closed.

The figure of an old man stepped out from the side of the porch, where he had evidently been standing, watching the doctor.

"Will he spare her now?—will he spare her now?" muttered the old man, wringing his hands, and shrinking back into the surrounding darkness.

CHAPTER XIII.

THE SHADOW CLOSING IN.

MRS. LINLEY was in a flutter. She had a special admiration for Dr. Brogden. She looked upon him as the embodiment of all goodness and skill. Besides, he had attended Mary when she was ill with the measles, and the good dame considered that his science had saved her daughter's life. Again, he had early taken an interest in her son George, to whom he acted as a guide in his medical studies.

They shook hands. The doctor inquired for Mr. Linley, senior, and regretted that his old friend was from home. The doctor took up his hat and cloak, and like a person well acquainted with the ways of the house hung them up in the hall. The dame then led him into the parlor, where a brisk fire was blazing and everything had an air of comfort. The doctor seated himself by the fire, and in that quiet thoughtful way of his, commenced to warm his hands and rub them together. Then began a shower of questions, on the lady's part, as to her son.

"And how is George, doctor?"

"Well, Mrs. Linley, and likely to continue so, I am glad to inform you."

"I have such fears for that boy, doctor; it almost disturbs my rest at nights to think of his delicate chest! You know, doctor, he was always delicate about the what-you-may-call-'em organs."

The doctor bowed and smiled as if he perfectly understood all about the what-you-may-call-'em organs.

"But how is the young lady who is ill?" inquired the doctor, just as the dame was about to launch out into a cross examination as to the doctor's own health and that of his lady.

"Ah, poor child," replied Mrs. Linley, "she is in a sad state!"

"Humph!—what are the symptoms?"

"Oh, I don't know exactly; now she's one thing, and the next time quite different."

"Is she weak?"

"Very—can't even sit up in the bed for a minute."

"Do you know the cause of her present illness?"

"No—except that just before she came here, the poor child walked an awful distance, and she's never been better since."

"Ah—over-exertion, I presume?"

"Yes, something of that sort."

The doctor said, "Ah!" rubbed his hands together, and looked into the fire as if he saw a very satisfactory explanation of the matter there; looked up at Mrs. Linley as if a new idea had struck him.

"Is the lady any friend of yours?"

"Oh, lor, no; I don't know anything about her, any more than you do. We haven't been able to ask her anything, she's been so ill ever since she came, and the old man that's with her won't tell us anything."

"Where did they come from?"

"There I can't say, again."

The doctor looked into the fire again, but this time as if he were seeking for something. Not finding it, he asked, without withdraw-

ing his eyes from the fire, "Have you no idea where she comes from?"

"Well, I don't know how it is, but somehow I fancy that they come from your place, Caverford."

The doctor brightened up immediately.

He ceased the hand-frictional process, and, looking up to the dame, observed, "Ah! I think I know your guests, Mrs. Linley."

"Eh! deary me, do you, now?"

"I think so, but I may be mistaken. However, you must ask me no questions about them; and you must not be surprised if I should take them away from you."

The good Dame Linley opened her eyes and mouth in blank amazement.

"Why, they haven't done anything, doctor?"

"Humph! you mustn't inquire too particularly, just now, Mrs. Linley."

"Well, no, of course not; I won't ask you any questions—only they haven't committed a murder, or something terrible, have they, now?" inquired Mrs. Linley, in a state of intense excitement.

"There, now!" replied the doctor, with a deprecatory motion of his hands; "you are just doing what you promised not to do."

"No, no, of course. But—they haven't run away with themselves?" she asked, under her breath.

"That is precisely what they have done."

"Goodness gracious!"

"Hush! you must say nothing at present," interrupted the doctor, decisively; but, with the bland smile, turning his peremptory words into playfulness, he continued, "Will you show me to the room of my patient?"

"Yes, yes—certainly," replied the dame, flurriedly, "I should have done so before. But will you have nothing to take before you see her?"

"Nothing, thank you; I am anxious to know if my surmises as to the lady's identity be correct."

"Then come this way, doctor. We will have a nice bit of supper ready for you by the time you are done. This way, if you please."

Dame Linley had a firm faith in the efficacy of good victuals as a preventative of all the ills that flesh is heir to; consequently, in conducting the doctor to the sick room, she could not even then forget that he had travelled a pretty long journey in an air celebrated for giving good appetites.

The doctor rose from his seat, and followed the dame into the lobby, up the stairs, and into a cleanly little bedroom. As they entered, they did not observe the open mouth and extended eyelids of little Lucy, who was seated on a small stool by the head of the bed. She looked as if she had just seen a ghost. Neither did they observe the rustle of the snow-white curtains, as if some one had hurriedly passed behind them.

Emilie, or rather Amy—now that she is in private life—then lay on the bed apparently in a troubled sleep. She muttered strange words now and again, and stirred as if some one were touching her, and she were endeavouring to shrink away. Her face was very pale, and with her long dark hair lying loosely about the pillow, she looked so very sadly beautiful.

The doctor paused for a moment as he entered the room. He made a motion to Dame Linley to be silent; then he stepped lightly over to the bed. He leant over and listened to the rapid breathing. He passed his hand several times through the hair of the sleeping girl, muttering some words to himself as he did so. Slowly the quick, heavy breathing became subdued into a quiet ordinary respiration, and the face which had formerly worn a slight expression of pain assumed the calm appearance of one in a heavy slumber.

The doctor paused, and he listened again. He seemed to be satisfied. Turning to Mrs. Linley, he said, "I am much afraid that our young friend here is in a dangerous condition. I should have been summoned before."

"Oh, la, doctor, I hope the poor girl is not likely to die. She is such a sweet darling, doctor—if you only heard her speak, or saw her eyes. I hope, I hope she will recover."

The dame's eyes began to fill with water as she spoke. The doctor pulled out his watch and looked at it solemnly, as if he were making a calculation as to time. Suddenly he inquired, "Has she been long in this sleep?"

"No."

"How long?"

"About half an hour, perhaps."

"Humph! upon this sleep will depend, in a great measure, the solution of the problem, whether she is to die or not."

"Poor child!" murmured the dame.

"We must watch awhile," said the doctor, as he seated himself by the bedside.

Dame Linley also took a seat. Suddenly she remembered something, and bending over to the doctor, she whispered, "Is she the person you took her for?"

"Yes. Hush!"

The doctor laid his finger upon his lips, and the dame was silent.

During their conversation Lucy had slipped out of the room and down into the kitchen, where she informed the rustics that "a bad, with a dirty face, was up-stairs with missus, and was goidge to burden the poor young lady."

Bob informed her that it was the doctor, who had come to cure the lady, but Lucy persisted that he was going to "murder" her.

The doctor sat by the bed; his eyes, gleaming strangely, were steadily fixed upon the pale face of the sleeping girl. Dame Linley sat with her hands folded on her lap, turning her eyes alternately upon the doctor and his patient. Amy made a slight restless motion. The doctor again softly passed his hand through her silken hair, and again all was still. The candles burned with a sickly, leaden light, and the breathings of the sleeper and the watchers were audible. Thus half an hour passed. The doctor leant over to Dame Linley, and whispered, "She will wake presently, will you leave us together?"

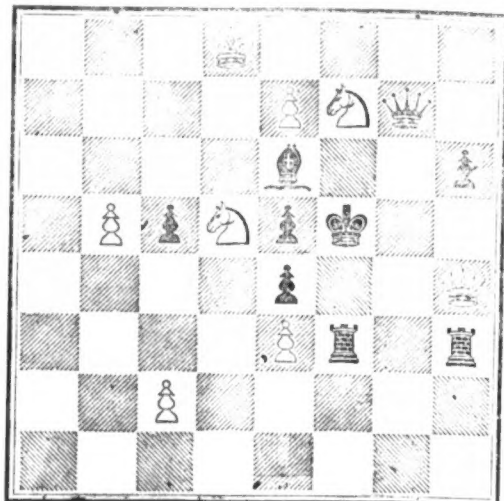
(To be continued.)

DEEP SEA TELEGRAPH CABLE.—Mr. Duncan has recently patented a cable in which he makes use of ratan cane as an external protecting cover to the conducting wire and insulating medium—a material which has not before, we believe, been used for the purpose. This covering is said to be impermeable, and the silicated rind shelters the fibre from the encroachments of animalcules. The cane has long been in use by the Chinese and Malays, and it can be obtained in large quantities in South Bengal, Ceylon, Singapore, and China, of uniform lengths of 50ft. and upwards. In this cable the joints are dovetailed, scarfed, or spliced, secured with cement, and arranged to fall at intervals, so as to break joint. These joints appear as strong as the cane itself. In paying out the cable, instead of its descending perpendicularly from the ship's side, it will submerge in an even or horizontal position, having sufficient weight to overcome floatation, and cause it to gravitate gradually to the bottom of the ocean. The cane, as a non-conductor, will not generate heat in the hold of the vessel, thus keeping the insulating medium at all times cool and equable, and allowing the tests to be carried on with greater certainty. The following are, among other advantages, claimed by the patentee:—Great flexibility, without elasticity or compressibility; it is not affected by heat or moisture; it is imperishable in sea-water; it affords strength and protection to the insulating medium; and it may be manufactured at a price so moderate as to render this cable the cheapest that can be constructed.

CHESS.

PROBLEM No. 3.—By CALVE.

Black.



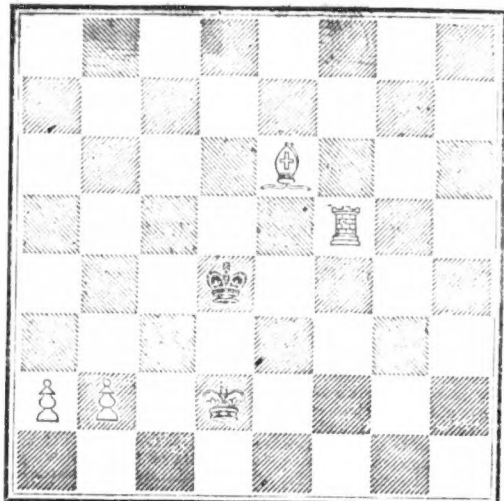
White.

White to move, and checkmate in four moves.

This problem was first introduced to chess players in England by the late M. Alexandre. The terminating move of the problem was a novelty at the time, and rendered the discovery of the solution very difficult.

PROBLEM No. 4.—By Mr. R.

Black.



White.

White to move, and checkmate in four moves.

THE SUCCESSION OF SAXE-COBURG.

THE Diet assembled on Monday, the 17th ult., in order to sanction the following project of law:—"We, Ernest, Duke of Coburg-Gotha, &c., decree—In the event, after our death, of one of our nephews, princes of Great Britain, &c., being called by the fundamental law to succeed us in the Government, and being too young for it, the regency shall revert during the minority to our cousin, Prince Auguste Louis Victor, Duke of Saxe." The Prince Auguste was born in 1818, and married to the Princess Clementine of Orleans.

SPRING'S FIRST MINSTREL.

WHITE places the earliest song of the thrush, from an average of many yearly observations, on the 6th of January; but it is very seldom heard generally until the third week of that month. In the beginning of February it will break out into singing at any gleam of fine weather. The severe winter of 1860-61 killed very many song thrushes, and during this last spring the survivors sang very little, for not only the weather, but also their state of health, materially influences their song. Indeed the whole thrush tribe, especially the fieldfares and redwings, suffered greatly from the lengthy frost of January, 1861. It is incredible, except to those who observe very closely, how much a severe winter kills our feathered friends of the garden. Darwin (*On the Birds*, p. 58) estimates "that the winter of 1854-5 destroyed four-fifths of the birds in his own grounds, and this is a tremendous destruction when we remember that ten per cent. is an extraordinarily severe mortality from any causes with man." So this mild winter probably foretells a grand spring concert.—*Once a Week*.

A ROYAL MARRIAGE RUMOUR.—The reports which have for some time been in circulation relative to a negotiation of marriage being on foot between the Prince of Wales and the Princess Alexandra of Glücksburg, eldest daughter of Prince Christian, the heir presumptive of the crown of Denmark, have lately received a further measure of confirmation. We are enabled to state that the Prince met the Princess when on his way to Vienna, and that the marriage in question may now be regarded as an event which is certainly in store for the future.—*Press*.

THE SLEEP OF CHILDHOOD.—How lovely is the sleep of childhood! What worlds of sweet, yet not utterly sweet, association does it not mingle with the envy of our gaze! What thoughts and hopes and cares, and forebodings does it excite! There is in that untroubled and unsullied heart what unnumbered sources of emotion! what deep foundations of passions and woes! Alas! whatever be its earlier triumphs, the victim must fall at last! As the hart, which the jackals pursue, the moment its race is begun, the human prey is foredoomed for destruction, not by the single sorrow, but by the thousand cares; it may baffle one race of pursuers, but a new succeeds; as fast as some drop off exhausted, others spring up to renew, and to perpetuate the chase; and the fated, though flying victim, never escapes—but in death!

WIT AND WISDOM.

EXACTLY.—Small and Seedy Bachelors.—"Yes, and then they find a poor cove if he's for being drunk and inebriated. Now wot I say is this, Mr. Pottinger: wot's the good of a man's drinkin' if it don't make 'im none the wuz?"

An exchange says that coffee is not coffee without rolls for breakfast. If he had ever taken his coffee at sea, he would probably be very glad to dispense with the rolls for breakfast.

Prosperity too often has the same effect on a Christian that a cabu sea has on a Dutch mariner, who frequently, it is said, in those circumstances, ties up the rudder, gets drunk, and goes to sleep.

A MAN in La Crosse, Wisconsin, a few days ago, rushed to the river swearing that he would drown himself. When he had waded in to the depth of his waist, his wife, who had followed him, seized him by the hair, and then, as a local editor describes it, she "led him back till they reached a place where the water was about two feet deep, where she pulled him over backwards, and souse him under, and pulled his head up again. 'Drown yourself (down he went), leaving me to futher the brats (another plunge)! get drunk (another souse)! and start for the river (another dip)—better use the water instead of rotgut (another dip and shake of his head)! I'll learn ye to leave me a widow, and all the men at the war!' After sousing him to her heart's content, she led him out wetter if not a better man, and escorted him into the house and closed the door."

WHEN a man marries a widow he is obliged to give up smoking and chewing. If she gives up her weeds for him, he should, of course, give up the weed for her.

An Irish auctioneer, while selling a stock of jewellery, describing a pair of jet ear-rings to a very respectable company of ladies, exclaimed very earnestly, "Indeed, if my wife were a widow, I would positively buy them for her."

"How different you soldiers are from us!" said Arabella to the captain; "with us the conquest only begins, while with you it ends the engagement!"

LYING AND STEALING.—"Where did you get that turkey?" said a colonel to one of his amiable recruits, who came into camp the other day with a fine bird. "Stole it," was the laconic answer. "Ah!" said the colonel, triumphantly, to a bystander, "you see my boys may steal, but they won't lie."

THE SCHOOLMASTER AT HOME.—A young lady recently returned from a boarding-school, being asked at table if she would take more cabbage, replied, "By no means, madam; gastronomical satiety admonishes me that I have arrived at the ultimate of culinary deglutition consistent with the code of Esculapius."

SWEET Margaret Fane came up the lane from picking the ripe berries; and met young Paul, comely and tall, going to market with cherries. Stopping, she blushed, and he looked flushed—perhaps 'twas the burden they carried; when they passed on, their burdens were one, and at Christmas they were married.

SHORT, BUT TO THE POINT.—A candidate for auditor of public accounts, was suddenly called upon for a speech. On rising, he commenced:—"Fellow citizens, you have called on me for a few remarks. I have none to make. I have no prepared speech. Indeed, I am no speaker; I do not desire to be a speaker; I only want to be an auditor."

To prevent a kitchen door from creaking, get a servant-girl whose head comes to the house to see her.

A KING'S JOKE.—The late Mr. Payne mentions, in his "Wine and Walnuts," a conversation between the King and a famous German General, whose everlasting theme was the bravery of his English subjects. George (*loquitur*): "But, mein General, dere is von thing dat de Briton is afraid of." "Your Majesty is under von mistake; der Englishman is not afraid of nothing at all." "But I tell you dat he is; and if you keep it ein great secret, I will tell you." "Most honoured, your Majesty." "Den you vill never tell it to von at all?" "I vill not, your Majesty." "Come closer, den, for fear of any von hearing it—der Englishman is afraid of him's wife."—*Dublin University Magazine*.

INCURED TO A GULLY-HOLE.—I remember the case of an old woman at the back of Bishopsgate-street, who lived in a house just opposite a gully-hole, and when I questioned her as to the smell, she replied, "No, sir, dere isn't no smell; dere has been a deal of sickness about, and I have lost my son, but I am insured to it, and don't mind it."—*Mr. Godwin, in Builder*.

A PUGILIST'S DEFENCE.—A London pugilist, on his trial for severely beating several policemen, made the following cool defence:—"I never interfere with police. They can knock a man about without impunity. Get into their hands they kick you, bite you, fight you, tear your clothes, and does as they like."

THE Grand Jury in the county of Tipperary have passed the following resolution:—"Resolved, That the present gaol is insufficient, and that another ought to be built. Resolved, That the materials of the old gaol be employed in constructing the new one. Resolved, That the old gaol shall not be taken down until the new one is finished."

An Irishman and a Scotchman were standing on the pier the other day, when a London boat came puffing up. "Och, be jabbers, what a bad cowl'd the steam-boat has got—hear how the poor thing coughs!" observed Pat. "How can a steam-boat take cold, eh?" very knowingly inquired the Scotchman. "Why, you spalpeen," said the Irishman, "she takes cowl'd from laying in the water so long. Wouldn't it give anybody cowl'd but a Scotchman?"

A GENTLE PAT.—Mr. Edlytur,—"Will you answer me this question now? Why is a blight like a big potatoe? Why? Because ye thief o' the world,—because it's de-rast-tater. More power to you! Whoop! I haven't a card, but enclose a piece of chalk, an' you write my name down if ye're minded."

A VERY SENSIBLE CHANGE.—In consequence of the many extremely scandalous and demoralizing revelations which have lately been made in Sir C. Cresswell's Court, it is, for the future, to be called the "Court of Reprobate and Divorce."

FROM OUR STUTTERING CORRESPONDENT.—What tree resembles a South American?—A cedar! (Seceder.)

Which is the most deceitful part of a lady's walking costume?—The false hood on her cloak.

MATHEMATICAL.—If a house has three storeys, how many tales has it?

"We have equal rights," said a dwarf to a giant. "Very true, my good fellow," said the giant, "yet you cannot walk in my shoes." "Ditto," said the dwarf.

IDLERS do everything they can to kill time, and then complain when the old gentleman hangs.

GAMES FOR SHORTER EVENINGS.—Chess Problem.—White to be master of the board in one move. Herr Ginnvater suggests that white should in one move take all his adversary's pieces off the board. But we doubt whether this is altogether fair.—Check in six moves and taking a bishop. (First move.) Having placed your watch in pawn, (second move) you receive a check, (third move) move over three squares, i.e., St. James's-square, Hanover-square, Cavendish-square. (Fourth move.) Try to get cheque cashed at Scott's after five o'clock p.m. This is the most uncertain move; if unable to do this, (fifth move) return the cheque to your adversary at a discount, (sixth move), and take some bishop hot, at the nearest hostlerie.—*Fun*.

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